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Rex Masesar, 31, says changes to the residential parking zone boundary in Winnipeg's downtown will prevent people from moving into the area. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Residents to see parking costs soar

Zone shrinks. Area man says move means fewer people will choose to live downtown



SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

A man living in downtown Winnipeg who is losing his residential parking pass due to changes to parking zone boundaries is concerned the move might stop others from choosing to live downtown.

The program allows people who live in high traffic zones like downtown or around hospitals to park without pumping money into a metre every hour with the purchase of a special \$25-a-year pass.

But a few of those zones — including the one where Rex Masesar lives on Donald Street just north of Broadway — were

Nice marketing, Winnipeg

"There are so many promotions saying come and live downtown right now, but once you get here we say, 'By the way, you have to find parking for like, \$130 bucks a month'—that's not very enticing."

Rex Masesar

shrunk last August in an effort ensure more spots are open for people when they need them.

Masesar, 31, wonders why a city trying to repopulate its downtown would take away parking options for those choosing to live there.

"As a young professional I want to live and work downtown," said Masesar, who's taken advantage of the program for the last few months and will

have to give up his pass next April.

Colin Stewart of the Winnipeg Parking Authority said the changes had to be made to zones like the one Masesar lives in because it was so big and so many people fit into it that very few spots were open for non-residents visiting the area.

"We reduced some of (the boundaries) because there was some misuse," said Stewart, explaining the large zone allowed people who didn't necessarily live downtown to legitimately get a permit and use it to avoid paying to park while working downtown.

Area councillor Jenny Gerbasi (Fort Rouge-East Fort Garry) said the changes are part of a broader city plan to make coming to the sports, hospitality, and entertainment district easier.

"The whole thing is about having enough turnover (in parking) so people can attend events and utilize what's happening downtown," she said.

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City, province in funding spat over rapid transit

Money woes.

Funding gap could put commitment on rough rails



BERNICE PONTANILLA

bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

A \$20-million funding gap is putting the second phase of Winnipeg's rapid transit corridor in jeopardy.

On Thursday, Mayor Sam Katz announced the city is committing \$137.5 million to the project that would link downtown to the University of Manitoba, plus \$1.1 million towards design work.

The city is looking for \$75 million from the federal government and a \$137.5 million match from the provincial government.

However, a provincial spokesperson said the Manitoba government has committed to funding one-third of the project, which works out to \$116.7 million, leaving a \$20 million gap.

"We're in for our one-third, as we have said all

along and again in the Throne Speech," said the spokesperson in an email to Metro. "We look forward to council selecting the route so we can move forward with this important project."

Katz said he will be looking to meet with the province to see what can be done.

"Otherwise it doesn't work," he added. "If the whole thing falls apart because of this, it'd be a shame ... The way this works is if the city and the province put in equal amounts of money."

Earlier on Thursday, several councillors joined Katz at Winnipeg Transit's Fort Rouge garage on Osborne for an upbeat press conference announcing the funding.

"This is definitely a significant financial commitment and signals that the City of Winnipeg is very serious about completing the second phase of the corridor," said Katz.

"We estimate that the completion of the Southwest Rapid Transit Corridor will be approximately \$350 million. This represents one of the largest, if not the largest, capital investments in the City of



Coun. Dan Vandal, right, speaks to media Thursday while Mayor Sam Katz and Coun. Russ Wyatt look on.

MEG CRANE/FOR METRO

Winnipeg's history."

He also said he believed the province, which won't balance its books until 2016-17, would come through with the cash.

"I have no doubt in my mind, in my discussions with the premier as well as with several of the ministers, that completing phase two of the Southwest Corridor is defin-

itely a priority and they want to get it done as quickly as possible," said Katz.

"The city is there, our money is on the table, we are committed, we are ready to go."

Winnipeg Transit director Dave Wardrop said if the funding is worked out in the next few months, construction could begin in 2015 with

a completion date in 2018.

He also said that while a final decision has yet to be made, transit will likely recommend the corridor swing further west of Pembina, just south of the Parker lands along a hydro route.

"It's a lower capital cost and the least amount of disruption to existing neighbourhoods," said Wardrop.

DUI will lead to interlock devices on cars

The Province of Manitoba is stiffening the penalty for those caught driving after drinking by making ignition interlock devices mandatory for all offenders.

The new law, which goes into effect starting Saturday, will mean everyone caught driving while over the legal limit — even first time offenders — will need to have the device installed in their vehicle for a minimum of one year after being convicted if they decide to stay on the road.



Justice Minister Andrew Swan announced new rules Thursday that stipulate everyone caught drunk behind the wheel will have to install ignition interlock devices in their cars if they want to continue driving.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

"There are some drivers that still do not get the message," said Justice Minister Andrew Swan while announcing the new rules at the Public Safety Building in Winnipeg on Thursday. "You're allowed to drink alcohol, you're allowed drive — you just cannot mix the two of them."

"The interlock program is an effective way to separate drinking and driving."

The machines act like a breathalyzer and won't allow a car to start if the driv-

er blows over the legal limit, and are administered by Manitoba Public Insurance.

Convicted drunk drivers are required to pay for all costs associated with installing and maintaining the devices.

Under the current legislation only repeat offenders and first time offenders with aggravating circumstances such as being involved in a crash or driving impaired with a child in the car are required to install the device.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

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No charge. New website allows online orders for local restaurants

Hungry Winnipeggers no longer have to wait on the phone for someone to record their take-out or delivery order at local restaurants.

Monday's launch of SkipTheDishes.ca allows people to conveniently order food online.

"Online ordering is already popular for large chains like Boston Pizza that maintain their own expensive websites," said co-founder Josh Simair. "A big part of what we are doing is making it easier for local restaurants in Winnipeg to offer the same convenience to their customers."

The website allows people to browse through participating restaurants based on their location and look over menus.

Simair said that all items on the menu can be customized within the restrictions the restaurant would normally allow customers to customize.

Chef Mandel Hitzer, owner of participating restaurant Deer + Almond, said it is a great way for busy professionals to get good food at work when they do not have time to get out.

He doesn't know if it will



Deseo Bistro owner Scott Bagshaw, left, sits with skipthedishes.ca co-founders Joshua Simair and Justin Brown. DEONDR TWERDUN/FOR METRO

affect his business at all and has not yet had an order through the site, but said he was hopeful.

Simair said there are currently about 30 Winnipeg restaurants on the website, but 40 are on board with the project.

On Jan. 1, an additional 15 restaurants will be added to the site for Winnipeg.

The website states that there are no charges for ordering online and it ensures that all restaurants have the same prices on their website as they do on their menu.

MEG CRANE/FOR METRO



'Handling' bullying

Globetrotter Chris "Handles" Franklin teaches Lakewood Elementary student Jake Turnbull a move at Voyageur Elementary School Thursday afternoon. The team was in town to promote The ABCs of Bullying Prevention, a program the Harlem Globetrotters designed in co-ordination with the National Campaign to Stop Violence. The Globetrotters bring their action-packed game to the MTS Centre on Thursday, Jan. 5 at 2 p.m. GRAEME COLEMAN/FOR METRO

National competition. Fort Richmond Collegiate needs Winnipeg's vote

After taking top honours in the first round of Under Armour's Finding Undeniable competition, Fort Richmond Collegiate (FRC) now needs Winnipeggers' votes to bring home the big prize of \$100,000 in athletic gear.

The school is one of just three left in the competition, which originally saw 38 Canadian schools compete in challenges and earn votes to pick up points.

"Over the past few weeks, our efforts have garnered media attention (and) political and professional-athlete endorsements ... that is why we deserve to win," said FRC student body president Chris-

Vote online

To help FRC become Canada's most undeniable high school, Winnipeggers can vote once a day until Friday at findingundeniable.ca.

topher Rampersad on what pushed them ahead of the other schools.

If FRC wins, Rampersad said they'd revamp FRC's sporting equipment and gear for their existing teams and try to invest the rest into new football and snowshoeing programs. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Private firm

Gov. sells property registry to Teranet

The Manitoba government is selling off its property registry to a private company.

Teranet Manitoba will pay the government \$75 million for the agency, which holds property titles, land surveys,

vehicle registrations and other records.

More than 130 government workers will be transferred to the private firm, and the government says there will be no layoffs.

The sale is part of a promise made in last spring's budget to sell \$83 million in government assets.

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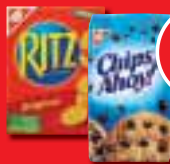
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GRAEME COLEMAN
For Metro

5

stocking stuffers for under \$10

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It doesn't get more amazingly retro than the kaleidoscope for \$8.50 at Desert, 117 Osborne Village.



3

Sock-stuffers an egg-cellent idea

Have your kids burn a little energy digging

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5



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Russia admits Assad could fall



Boys attend class in a city under control of the Free Syrian Army in Aleppo province, Syria. MANU BRABO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Allies. Russia won't say whether it will change its pro-Syria stance at UN Security Council

Syria's most powerful ally and protector, Russia, began positioning itself Thursday for the fall of President Bashar Assad, saying for the first time that rebels might overthrow him and preparing to evacuate thousands of Russian citizens from the country.

The head of NATO echoed the Russian assessment, saying the Syrian government is near collapse following a nearly two-year conflict that has killed more than 40,000 people and threatened to ig-

nite the Middle East. Assad appears to be running out of options, with insurgents at the gates of the capital and the country fracturing under the weight of a devastating civil war.

"An opposition victory can't be excluded, unfortunately, but it's necessary to look at the facts: There is a trend for the government to progressively lose control over an increasing part of the territory," Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov, Moscow's Middle East envoy, said during hearings at a Kremlin advisory body.

Still, Bogdanov gave no immediate signal that Russia would change its pro-Syria stance at the UN Security Council, where Moscow has shielded Damascus from

Syrian ties

- Russia has sold Syria billions of dollars worth of weapons
- The Russians also oppose a world order dominated by the United States, and are keen to avoid a repeat of last year's NATO air campaign that led to the ouster of Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, a former ally of Moscow.

world sanctions.

Russia's acknowledgment that Assad could lose the fight is an embarrassing blow to the regime, which describes the rebels as terrorists sent from abroad with no popular support. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Brawl breaks out in Ukrainian parliament

Ukraine's newly-elected parliament on Thursday approved two presidential allies for the posts of prime minister and parliament speaker, but the vote was nearly overshadowed by a violent brawl between government supporters and opposition lawmakers.

The Party of Regions led by President Viktor Yanukovich and its allies secured a majority in the Verkhovna Rada following an October election condemned as unfair by the West. But three opposition parties made a strong showing and vowed to challenge Yanukovich's grip on power. Some took that literally. For the second day of the new parliament's work, fists flew as



Lawmakers fight around the rostrum during the first session of Ukraine's newly-elected parliament on Thursday. SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

opposition lawmakers chanted "Shame! Shame!" and "No to defectors!"

Shortly after parliament began its work Thursday mor-

ning, opposition lawmakers swarmed the parliament's podium and a fight erupted with pro-government legislators.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google hides porn under cyber mattress

Filtering furor. Change to SafeSearch settings means fewer saucy pics turn up in results

In a move that polarized online opinion, Google introduced a new algorithm Thursday that will produce fewer pornographic images on its image search.

The change took effect in the U.S. only, and hasn't yet been implemented in Canada.

Twitter was abuzz with the change, which seems to affect the U.K., U.S. and Canada, but not some European countries like Germany.

"Is Google Censuring Porn on Image Search, or Is Search Broken?," tweeted @Philbo as news of the new filter broke Thursday morning.

Most of the early tweets expressed dismay in what was perceived to be increased censorship.

"Don't be evil, Google? Then why does your new Google Images algorithm make it harder to find porn?," tweeted @omar_aok.

But some users saw an up-

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Can you give us examples?

"If you're looking for adult content, you can find it without having to change the default setting — you just may need to be more explicit in your query..."

Google statement

tent isn't being censored, just that a user will have to search for it specifically.

"We use algorithms to select the most relevant results for a given query. If you're looking for adult content, you can find it without having to change the default setting — you just may need to be more explicit in your query if your search terms are potentially ambiguous," the statement read.

"No filter is 100 per cent accurate, but SafeSearch should help you avoid most of this type of material," writes Google on its help site.

Twitter user ?@WillieClark solemnly declared Thursday "The day the porn died."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Take that, Apple — Google Maps makes a return

The new Google Maps application is shown in New York on Thursday. The world's most popular online mapping system has returned with the release of the Google Maps iPhone app. The release comes nearly three months after Apple Inc. replaced Google Maps — which was the iPhone's built-in navigation system — with its own map software. But Apple's maps proved to be far inferior, and the product's shoddiness prompted Apple CEO Tim Cook to issue a rare public apology. A Google Maps iPad app is in the works, but for now, iPad owners can use the maps in iPhone mode. That won't be the best experience, but still may be better than Apple's maps on the iPad. KARLY DOMB SADOE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ottawa

Supreme Court sides with cable, satellite firms on fee system

The CRTC does not have power to make cable providers pay broadcasters for carrying their TV signals, says a decision handed down Thursday by the Supreme Court of Canada. While the decision was hailed by one major cable company as a step forward for customers, broadcasters said the very survival of local TV is at stake.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. cyberstalking law would limit apps that track cellphone users

For about \$50, a jealous wife or husband can download cellphone software that can track the whereabouts of a spouse better than any private detective. But in the United States, it soon might be illegal.

The Senate Judiciary Committee was expected on Thursday to approve a law closing a legal loophole that allows so-called cyberstalking apps to operate secretly on a cellphone and transmit the user's location without a person's knowledge.

Telephone companies are barred from disclosing to busi-

nesses the locations of people when they make a traditional phone call.

But there's no such prohibition on the Internet, and the ambiguity has created a niche for companies such as Retina Software, which makes ePhoneTracker and describes it as "stealth phone spy software."

Retina Software says the program is for the lawful monitoring of a cellphone that the purchaser of the software owns and has a right to monitor. But supporters of the bill said there is no way to ensure the rules are followed. Such

Keeping track

"Suspect your spouse is cheating? Don't break the bank by hiring a private investigator."

Slogan on Retina Software's website

programs can be installed in moments, perhaps while the cellphone's actual owner is sleeping or in the shower. The apps operate invisibly to the cellphone's user.

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MONKEY SEE, GOOSE BUMP, BEAR NO CAN DO



THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

1 **Pimpin' primate:** The week's top story involves a stylishly-dressed monkey wandering cluelessly around a store, and eventually taken to live with a

baboon. Wasn't that the premise for Jersey Shore?

2 **Call Me Maybe:** The "Robocall" challenge went before Federal court this week. Voters questioned the integrity of the election process, and political scientist Peter Russel said, "Canadian citizens don't want to be lied to in robocalls." He's right. Canadians are accustomed to politicians who lie to us in person, dammit!

3 **Diminishing returns:** Imagine waiting hours at a restaurant for a steak, and then being given two of them minutes before they close. You now have to consume massive quantities in a hurry, and while the first two bites are satisfying, the whole thing just ends up making you sick. Welcome to your condensed NHL season.

4 **Good for the goose:** The Canadian dollar rose slightly this week while American currency weakened when it was announced that the U.S. Federal Reserve would be printing additional money to buy up more bonds. I had a friend who used to do that but I haven't seen him in years.

5 **Single mother:** An 11-year-old female polar bear at the Toronto Zoo, who last year rejected three of her own cubs, gave birth to three more on Dec. 6. One died shortly after birth, and the others died on Sunday. The zoo is unclear about how these last two died, and they are investigating. Now, I'm no social worker, but maybe she's just not ready for motherhood?

6 **Ask Men?:** Jennifer Lawrence, the 22-year-old star of The Hunger Games, has been named the "most desirable woman" of the year in an annual AskMen.com poll based on several criteria including sex appeal, talent, sense of humour, and professional success, although the latter three are only ever seen by women.

7 **Li-Lo litigation:** I was going to provide an update on Lindsay Lohan's court case, but then I had a dream in which she hit me with her Porsche, punched me in the face, stole my watch, and made me watch Liz & Dick. I woke up in a cold sweat screaming, "No mas Lindsay, please, no mas!"

8 **Dalton McGuinty:** Pardon me. What I was going to say about Ontario's premier may already have been said in number 2 above. Or was it number 1? Take your pick.

9 **RIP:** We lost two outstanding international artists this week. The first was Jenni Rivera, a huge star in the Latin world, whose life and career were cut short in a plane crash at age 43. The second was Ravi Shankar, 92, whose work with the Beatles made him the best-known contemporary Indian musician of our time. Gen Y may only know him as Norah Jones' dad (and we thank him for that), but his impact on music is unparalleled in many ways. Thankfully, both of these artists left their music for us to cherish. Rock & Roll heaven awaits.

Happy Holidays to all.



Golden girl: The Hunger Games' Jennifer Lawrence was named AskMen.com's 'most desirable woman' of the year. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Blooming cold in the Arctic



MATTHIAS WIETZ/IGERT/NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

In the garden of freezin'

Chilly air creates a sea of flowers at the North Pole

Some (flowers) like it hot, but others like these in the North Pole prefer it very cold. Frost flowers, a natural phenomenon where frost grows amid an extremely cold atmosphere on top of warmer water, form unusual floral structures that host microorganisms. Oceanographer Jeff Bowman spoke to Metro about his research.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Q&A

Like frost, but in 3-D

How are these frost flowers formed?

They grow on new ice with open cracks. The extremely cold air (below -8 C) becomes saturated and frost starts to form on the ice's imperfections. Then feathery structures begin to grow out of the cracks, and incorporate marine salt and microorganisms like algae. They are no different to frost formations, but only in 3-D.

What is the significance of these ethereal structures?



Jeff Bowman at work in the Arctic Ocean. MATTHIAS WIETZ/IGERT/NSF

Chemical reactions in the flowers produce compounds that help form clouds. This low cloud cover can alter the local climate — by reflecting sunlight back into

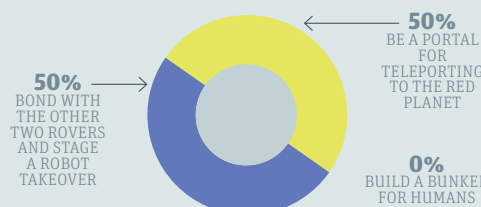
space — and thus make the region colder. In addition, frost flowers can potentially release aerosols, which can lead to ozone depletion. But so far this is nothing more than speculation.

What was your first reaction when you saw these? They are stunning and so ubiquitous, you can see them for kilometres. They form very abruptly, within only a few hours. I recall one expedition to the North Pole: when the fog cleared the entire icescape was covered as far as the eye could see by these bizarre yet beautiful shapes.



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

NASA is planning to send another rover to Mars. What should be its mission?



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el! Careful people #winnipeg #polopark

@ladygapate:

Whoa! Fatburger coming to Winnipeg? Thats awesome! #yummy

@HoPP:

My gawd, anywhere else in the world a girder collapsing while dismantling a bridge would see the use of cutting torches in 1 hr #winnipeg

@Smoars:

Just had someone come to my door and offer to shovel my walk. Problem is, he didn't have a shov-

@JazmineTo:

If a bus is late by 20 mins in the winter I think the bus ride should be free. #winnipeg #bus #transit





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The Hobbit is a coming-of-age story for Bilbo Baggins. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD
CROUSE AND
MARK BRESLIN



High-def hobbits?

Too much tech. The tale of the beginning of Lord of the Rings is overshadowed by 48 frames per second

Richard: Ned, as much as the story and performances, people will be talking about the presentation of the movie. Shot and projected at 48 frames a second — twice the industry standard — the picture is so vivid, so pristine, it doesn't really look like a movie. Combine that with the 3D and it's like watching mega high-definition. Every goblin wart and troll blemish is distinct enough to give dermatologists everywhere nightmares. What did you think of the mega-super-hi-definition look?

Ned: I have to say, the 48 frames per second was a problem for me. It often looked

somewhere between a super-high definition 1980s BBC miniseries and a video game, and it just felt utterly uncinematic. Saying that it doesn't really look like a movie hits the nail on the head. Christopher Nolan has harped on in the past about film having a "warmth" that video can't replicate, and I think I see what he means here. But the biggest crime, I think, is that the sweeping shots of the New Zealand landscape looked fake.

RC: Perhaps it's like the difference between vinyl or CD. I prefer the warm sound of old-school vinyl to the hard digital preproduction of CD. The pops and skips are part of the experience, just as film blur and grain are a part of watching 35 mm projected on the big screen. Having said that, Gollum is awesome at 48 frames a second. The extended scene (for the record, most of the scenes in the film

could be called extended), in which Bilbo and Gollum meet and trade riddles is one of the highlights of the film thanks to Serkis' astounding motion capture performance.

NE: That scene is the true highlight of the film, and it coincidentally is where Martin Freeman, as the younger Bilbo, really shines as well. But even with this standout, Peter Jackson and company manage to spoil it (for me at least) by overdoing Gollum's last line to beat the viewer over the head with another reminder that all this leads to the Lord of the Rings. It's a bad habit running through the film that grows tedious. Elijah Wood's cameo is particularly clumsy in this regard, with him basically describing what he's going to do in his first scene in Fellowship of the Ring and then running off to do it.

RC: It may be clumsy, but I think fans of the series will

Synopsis

The prequel to the immensely popular Lord of the Rings films is a coming-of-age story for Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman), a stay-at-home hobbit from Bag End, in Hobbiton in the Shire. He's content with his quiet life until Gandalf (Ian McKellen), a wizard, recruits him to help a group of 13 dwarves in their quest to reclaim their former home, the Lonely Mountain, and its treasure from the dragon Smaug.

- Richard: ●●●●●
- Ned: ●●●●●

revel at the chance of revisiting the characters!

NE: Well, they'll have plenty of chances. If you like this one, the good news is it's just the first of three movies.

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2 SCENE

Drama



Hitchcock

Director. Sacha Gervasi

Stars. Anthony Hopkins, Helen Mirren, Scarlett Johansson

Somewhere between Toby Jones' portrayal in HBO's dour *The Girl* and Anthony Hopkins' turn in *Hitchcock* are the real facts. Certainly much of *Hitchcock* — loosely based on Stephen Rebello's book *The Making of Psycho* — is a fairy tale, whitewashing the grimmer side of the filmmaking process in favour of a lighthearted peek at the love affair between Hitch and his wife/partner Alma (Helen Mirren) during the making of his notorious work. Hopkins and Mirren are a joy to watch, but compared to the darker *The Girl*, *Hitchcock* feels trite. **CHRIS ALEXANDER**

The Guilt Trip. Multi-talented entertainer dishes about the film industry, Seth Rogen and getting scripts



NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Barbra Streisand is many things — an acclaimed actress, singer, director and writer, political activist and philanthropist — but most of all she's a woman not afraid to speak her mind. So what wisdom did Streisand have to impart while promoting the *Guilt Trip*?

The secret to her success is staying home

"I don't make that many movies and I don't make that many appearances," she says. "That's it. Less is more. And maybe that keeps a little mystery or something. I like to stay home a lot."

She doesn't like where the film industry has been going
"It's not the same as when I

last made a film. They're not interested in love stories or any movie that's over \$15 million. But it could be \$100 million, that's OK. Two hundred million is OK to lose," she laughs. "But movies that I'm used to making or liking, that draw me, they're movies that cost \$18 million, \$20 million, and they're not interested in those movies. It's a different time."

She doesn't actually get sent that many scripts to consider

"I don't. You see, everybody gets like that. 'She must get so many scripts, why would I send it to her? She'll never get a chance to read it,'" Streisand laments. "Meanwhile I'll go, 'Where are the scripts?'"

While co-star Seth Rogen asked around about what working with Streisand would be like, she wasn't able to do any similar research.

"Seth, it turns out, sussed me out," she says. "He called people from the Focker movies. I didn't know who to call. I don't know any of those people from his movies, so what was I going to do?"



The Guilt Trip opens next Friday. HANDOUT

What's next in Broadway to big screen adaptations?

STEVE GOW

scene@metronews.ca

With *Les Misérables* hitting theatres Christmas Day, it'll mark just the latest Broadway hit to be brought to the big-screen. While fans must wait a little longer before checking out the

adaptation, we wanted to examine other Broadway classics that have yet to be converted into cinematic gold.

The Book of Mormon

Conceived by funnymen Trey Parker and Matt Stone, *The Book of Mormon* isn't just the 2011 Tony Award champion; it's an unlikely hit musical

about missionaries in war-torn Uganda that mixes satire and song the way only the creators of TV's *South Park* can do.

Status: Although the comic duo announced eventual plans for a film version, Parker admitted they're in no rush, telling *Movieline*, "We'd

have to really rethink it."

Avenue Q

Debuted from an experimental play in 2003, this *Sesame-Street-for-adults* show featuring politically-incorrect (and sometimes nude!) puppets struggling in Manhattan could amp it up even more for the

big screen.

Status: There have been rumours but no serious plans are in the works ver. Someone call Jason Segel.

Jersey Boys

This musical biography may have debuted in San Diego but the story of 1960s sing-

ing group the Four Seasons has become one of Broadway's biggest box-office draws.

Status: Floating around Hollywood for years, *Jersey Boys* was to begin production in January until Warner Brothers' yanked the project.

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The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 3-6:45-10:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 11:30-3-6:45-10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 3-6:45-10:30 No Passes Fri 3-6-7-10-11 No Passes Sat-Sun 2-3-6-7-10-11 No Passes Mon-Thu 3-6-7-10
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri 3:20-6:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:20-6:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 3:20-6:30-9:50
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 11:55
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri 5:15-7:50-10:20 Sat-Sun 11:55-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:20 Mon-Tue 4:15-7:05-9:40
Rise of the Guardians (G) Sat-Sun 11:45
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 5-7:30-10:05 Sat-Sun 2:20-5-7:30-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:15-9:45
Skyfall (14A) Fri 3:50-7:10-10:50 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:50-7:10-10:50 Mon-Thu 3:50-7:10-10:15 Fri-Sat 4:30-8 Sun 1:15-4:30-8 Mon-Thu 4:45-8:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 5:30-8:10-10:45 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:55-5:30-8:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:20-10:10
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri 5:25-7:55-10:25 Sat-Sun 12:20-2:50-5:25-7:55-10:25 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:55-9:35

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24/7 in Love (PG) Fri 7-10 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:10-7-10 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:30
Argo (14A) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:10-8:10
Cloud Atlas (14A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 1-4:30-8 Mon-Thu 5-8:30
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri 7:20-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:20-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:30-8
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (G) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:30-5:35 Mon-Thu 5:10
Paranormal Activity 4 (14A) Fri 7:40-10:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:45-5:50-8:10-10:20 Mon-Thu 6-8:40
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri 7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 2:20-4:50-7:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:10
Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (18A) Fri 9 Sat-Sun 7:50-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:30
Talaash (14A) Fri 6:50-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:20

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Argo (14A) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:10-8:10
Cloud Atlas (14A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 1-4:30-8 Mon-Thu 5-8:30
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri 7:20-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:20-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:30-8
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (G) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:30-5:35 Mon-Thu 5:10
Paranormal Activity 4 (14A) Fri 7:40-10:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:45-5:50-8:10-10:20 Mon-Thu 6-8:40
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri 7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 2:20-4:50-7:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:10
Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (18A) Fri 9 Sat-Sun 7:50-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:30
Talaash (14A) Fri 6:50-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:20
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The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 6:30-10:15 No

Passes Sat-Sun 3-6:30-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:30-8
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 5-8
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri 7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:45-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:15
Rise of the Guardians (G) Sat-Sun 12:30 Mon-Tue 5:10 Wed-Thu 5:10-7:50
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 7:30-10 Sat-Sun 2:50-5:10-7:30-10 Mon-Tue 7:50
Skyfall (14A) Fri 6:45-10 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:45-10 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 12:45-4:30-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:15
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:50-7:10-9:50 Mon-Tue 5-8

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Anna Karenina (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 4:05-7:10-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:40-4:05-7:10-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10-10:10
Flight (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 9:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 4:15-8 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-4:15-8 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 4:15-8
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 3:45-4-7:25-7:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12-12:15-3:45-4-7:25-7:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 3:45-4-7:25-7:45
Life of Pi (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:35
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 3:50-6:50-10:05
Lincoln (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:30-6:40-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:05-3:30-6:40-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:30-6:40-9:50
Playing for Keeps (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 4:10-7 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:50-4:10-7 Stadium Seating Mon 4:10-7 Stadium Seating Tue 7 Stadium Seating Wed 4:10 Stadium Seating Thu 4:10-7
Skyfall (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:35-6:45-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:20-3:35-6:45-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:35-6:45-9:55

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Heart Land (STC) Wed 10
The Human Body (STC) Sat 6:30 Thu 12:10
The Magic of Flight (STC) Mon 10
Santa vs. The Snowman 3D (STC) Fri 12-5:30 Sat 1:15-5:30 Sun 1:30 Tue-Thu 11:10
Space Station (STC) Sun 3:45 Mon 11 Wed 1:15 Thu 10
To the Arctic 3D (STC) Fri 11 Sat 12:15 Sun 12:30 Mon 1:15 Wed 12:15
Van Gogh: Brush With Genius (STC) Tue 12:10

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Hitchcock (PG) Fri 7:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:40-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:40
Life of Pi (PG) Fri 6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:10-4-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:50
Mad Ship (14A) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1-3:15-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15



Playing for Keeps HANDOUT

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Deadfall (18A) Fri-Thu 9:40
The Guilt Trip (PG) Wed-Thu 7:15-9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 2-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri 6:30-10 Sat-Sun 11:30-3-6:30-10 Mon-Thu 6:30-10
Killing Them Softly (18A) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:15-3-7:15-9:30 Mon-Tue 7:15-9:30 Wed-Thu 9:30
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 7-9:15
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Red Dawn (STC) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:30-7:15-9:30 Mon-Tue 7:15-9:30
Rise of the Guardians (G) Sat-Sun 3:15 Wed-Thu 7
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 12:45-7 Mon-Tue 7
Skyfall (14A) Fri 6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:40
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri-Tue 9:15
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 7:15 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:15-7:15 Mon-Thu 7:15

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Batman Returns (STC) Mon 7:30
The Guilt Trip (PG) No Passes Wed 1:40-4:10-7:40-10:10 No Passes Thu 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 1:15-2-5-5:50-8:45-9:30 No Passes Sun 1:15-2-5-5:55-8:45-9:30 No Passes Mon-Tue 1:15-2-5-5:45-8:45-9:30 No Passes Wed 1:15-2:05-5-5:45-8:45-9:30 No Passes Thu 1:15-2-5-5:45-8:45-9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey — An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:45-3:20-7-10:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:40-4:20-8
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:10-2:50-6:30-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 2:30-6:15-10 No Passes Fri-Sat 12:10-3:50-7:30-11:10 No Passes Sun 12:10-3:50-7:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 3-6:45-10:25
Jingle All the Way (STC) Sat 11
Killing Them Softly (18A) Fri-Sat 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:20-10:50 Sun 12-2:20-4:45-10:45 Mon 2:10-4:40-10:05 Tue 2:20-4:55-7:30-10:05
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 1:50-4:50-7:55-11:05 Sun 1:50-4:50-7:55-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:25
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Tue 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30 Wed 12:55-4:20-10:30 Thu 12:30-3:45-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 11:55

Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05
National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (STC) Thu 7:30
Red Dawn (PG) Fri 1:15-3:45-6:10-8:40-11:10 Sat 5:30-7:50-10:10 Sun 12:55-3:15-5:35-8-10:15 Mon 1:05-3:25-10:10 Tue 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 12:05 Mon-Thu 1:55
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05 Sat 11:05-2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05 Sun 2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:20-6:55-9:30
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:25 Mon-Wed

1:05-4:05-7:10-10:15 Thu 12:55-3:45-10:15
Skyfall (14A) Fri-Sat 12:50-4:10-7:30-11 Sun 12:20-3:30-7:30-11 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:40-7-10:20
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri-Sat 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:55 Sun 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:45 Mon-Thu 2:05-4:50-7:45-10:35
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 12:20 Sat 11-12:20 Sun-Tue 12:20 Wed-Thu 12:20-2:55-5:30-8:05-10:35
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri-Tue 2:55-5:30-8:05-10:35
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 7

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The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 12-2-3:45-5:50-7:30-9:30-11:15 No Passes Sun 12:30-2-4:15-5:50-8-9:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:15-2-5-5:45-8:45-9:30
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Jingle All the Way (STC) Sat 11
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri 1:30-4:30-7:25-10:20 Sat-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Live (STC) Sat 11:55
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Wed-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:10-9:35
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri 12:30-3-7:50 Sat 8 Sun 12:30-3-7:50 Mon-Tue 12:35-3-7:50
Red Dawn (PG) Fri 5:30-10:30 Sat 5:40-10:30 Sun-Tue 5:30-10:25
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 12:20 Mon-Thu 2:45 Mon 5:10-7:35-10:10
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:45-5:10-7:35-10:10 Tue-Thu 5:10-7:35-10:10
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The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 2:20-5-7:45-10:40 Sat 11:35-2:20-5-7:45-10:40 Sun 1:30-4:25-7:20-10:05 Mon-Thu 1-3:45-6:55-9:45
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri-Sun 12:10 Mon-Thu 2:25-5:05-7:40-10:15 Fri-Sat 2:55-5:30-8:05-10:35 Sun 2:55-5:30-8-10:30
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Sat 11:05

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The Hollywood Foreign Press shows its love for Honest Abe

Golden Globe noms.

Lincoln grabs seven nods, while in TV, Homeland and Downton Abbey come out as favourites



NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln* leads this year's Golden Globe Awards nominations, placing in seven categories including best drama, with nods for Spielberg and screenwriter Tony Kushner as well as actors Daniel Day-Lewis, Tommy Lee Jones and Sally Field, and composer John Williams.

Other favourites for the Hollywood Foreign Press include Ben Affleck's *Argo*, Kathryn Bigelow's *Zero Dark Thirty* and Quentin Tarantino's *Django Unchained*, all of which received best drama and best director nods, as well as other nominations.

On the television side, new series *Nashville*, *Smash* and the *Newsroom* earned accolades, while longtime awards favourite *Mad Men* failed to make the best television drama list for the first time. Critical favourites *Homeland* and *Downton Abbey* earned four and three nominations each, respectively, and are expected to be favourites when the awards are handed out.

Biggest surprises

The Hollywood Foreign Press clearly has a thing for Nicole Kidman, nominating the actress in both film and TV categories. Her nod for Lee Daniels' *The Paperboy* may be the most controversial this year,



Quentin Tarantino's *Django Unchained*, starring Christoph Waltz and Jaime Foxx, grabbed a number of nominations. HANDOUT

as the film was widely panned coming out of the Cannes Film Festival. Also a surprise? Multiple nominations for *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*, an early 2012 film with little to know awards campaign. Stars Ewan McGregor and Emily Blunt earned acting nods while the film made the best musical or comedy list.

Biggest snubs

While Tom Hooper's presumed awards season juggernaut *Les Misérables* earned nods for best musical or comedy, plus best actor Hugh Jackman and supporting actress Anne Hathaway, Hooper himself didn't make the best director list. And despite turn-

ing in great performances in multiple films, Matthew McConaughey came up empty handed at the HFPA. Other notable snubs include Robert DeNiro for *Silver Linings Playbook* — though best supporting actor is the tightest race this year — and indie darling *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, which

didn't receive a single nomination.

The 70th annual Golden Globe Awards will be handed out live January 13, hosted by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, who are nominated against each other in the best actress in a television comedy category.

Some of the nominations

- **Best motion picture — drama.** *Argo*, *Django Unchained*, *Life of Pi*, *Lincoln*, *Zero Dark Thirty*
- **Best motion picture — musical or comedy.** Best *Exotic Marigold Hotel*, *Les Misérables*, *Moonrise Kingdom*, *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*, *Silver Linings Playbook*
- **Best director.** Ben Affleck, *Argo*; Kathryn Bigelow, *Zero Dark Thirty*; Ang Lee, *Life of Pi*; Steven Spielberg, *Lincoln*; Quentin Tarantino, *Django Unchained*
- **Best actor, motion picture drama.** Daniel Day-Lewis, *Lincoln*; Richard Gere, *Arbitrage*; John Hawkes, *The Sessions*; Joaquin Phoenix, *The Master*; Denzel Washington, *Flight*
- **Best actress, motion picture drama.** Marion Cotillard, *Rust and Bone*; Jessica Chastain, *Zero Dark Thirty*; Helen Mirren, *Hitchcock*; Naomi Watts, *The Impossible*; Rachel Weisz, *The Deep Blue Sea*
- **Best actor, motion picture musical or comedy.** Jack Black, *Bernie*; Bradley Cooper, *Silver Linings Playbook*; Hugh Jackman, *Les Misérables*; Ewan McGregor, *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*; Bill Murray, *High Park on Hudson*
- **Best actress, motion picture musical or comedy.** Emily Blunt, *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*; Judi Dench, *Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*; Jennifer Lawrence, *Silver Linings Playbook*; Maggie Smith, *Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*; Meryl Streep, *Hope Springs*
- **Best drama series.** *Breaking Bad*, *Boardwalk Empire*, *Downton Abbey*, *Homeland*, *The Newsroom*
- **Best comedy series.** The *Big Bang Theory*, *Episodes*, *Girls*, *Modern Family*, *Smash*

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SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

Tired of the same old Christmas songs? Here are two brand new tracks



Burn the Flames/Mark Lanegan

The former Screaming Trees frontman has a lo-fi solo EP entitled Dark Mark Does Christmas. Correct on all counts.

Angels Without Wings/The Mahones

A fun Christmas song from the new album, Angels & Devils. Good for singing at the pub after a few pints.



Songs take spotlight in TV drama Nashville as stars step up to the mic



Australian actress and singer Clare Bowen, who stars as Scarlett O'Connor in the ABC drama series Nashville, sings her own songs.

DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ABC drama. Tunes on Music City show has sold more than 800,000 digital singles

Buddy Miller says these days it's not unusual for duet partners to cut their love songs syllable by syllable while never even seeing each other: "In this town especially that's what happens."

That's why the veteran Music City producer and band leader was so astounded by what he witnessed in the early days of working on the music for the television show Nashville. He was nervous about his session with actors Clare Bowen and Sam Palladio because their song If I Didn't Know Better, written

Quote

"They didn't know they didn't have to memorize the song."

Buddy Miller

by John Paul White of The Civil Wars and Arum Rae, was challenging and served as a pivotal moment in the pilot. It had to be right, and that depended on the young actors being able to pull it off.

"They didn't know they didn't have to memorize the song or look each other in the eyes when you're singing a love song," Miller said. "For those two who'd never sung in a studio before to go in there, look each other in the eyes with the song memorized and sing the song, I had goose bumps and so did everybody else in the room. ... That had a whole lot more soul in it than most of the stuff that gets cut in this town."

The music of Nashville has been as much a star on the hour-long ABC drama as Connie Britton, Hayden Panettiere, Charles Esten, Jonathan Jackson, Bowen and Palladio. Yes, each really does sing his or her own part, and so far fans seem to be responding, buying more than 800,000 digital singles. Panettiere's Telescope has even cracked top 40 at country radio.

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Pet Health Fact+

Medications made for people can harm your pet. The ASPCA lists human drugs in the top 10 pet toxins. Medications like ibuprofen and naproxen are the most common. But antidepressants, decongestants, muscle relaxants and acetaminophen are some of the other medications that can harm your pet. These drugs can lead to kidney damage, seizures, and bleeding ulcers in a dog or a cat. Consult with your veterinarian before deciding to give human medication to your pet.

sants, decongestants, muscle relaxants and acetaminophen are some of the other medications that can harm your pet. These drugs can lead to kidney damage, seizures, and bleeding ulcers in a dog or a cat. Consult with your veterinarian before deciding to give human medication to your pet.



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The Horses of McBride airs Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. ET/PT on CTV. HANDOUT

Movie tells real-life rescue of horses from B.C. mountain

The Horses of McBride. Snowmobilers worked tirelessly for four days to save the animals

LIZ BROWN
liz.brown@metronews.ca

Just before Christmas in 2008, Toni Jeck was faced with a tough decision. Armed with some hay and a shotgun, she was tasked with deciding the fate of two starving horses her snowmobiling brother had found trapped in two-metre deep snow on the side of Mount Renshaw, near McBride, B.C.

Despite finding the horses covered in bald patches and severely underweight, Jeck was convinced they could survive, if only she could get them off the mountain.

What followed was a four-day ordeal that warmed the hearts of Canadians as they watched a group of snowmobilers dig

a trench more than a kilometre long, in minus 30 degree Celsius temperatures to free the horses, who — it was later discovered — had been abandoned there in the fall by a man on a hunting trip.

The story of the snowmobilers who could and the horses with the will to survive wasn't forgotten.

On Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. (ET/PT), CTV presents The Horses of McBride, starring Aidan Quinn, a TV movie based on the events of four years ago.

Actress Mackenzie Porter, who portrays Jeck in the movie, says she has trouble wrapping her head around the strength and willpower it must have taken to keep digging in sub-zero temperatures.

"I can't imagine it. Just the little amount of work we were doing to portray this story on film was exhausting. And I experienced nothing compared to what the Jeck family actually experienced," she says.

Filming for The Horses

of McBride took place in the Kananaskis Valley, Alta., which mimicked some of the deep snow conditions the real rescuers faced. "I did a lot of shoveling, luckily I only had to do it when the camera was rolling" says Porter, laughing. "I got an amazing workout."

While the shoveling may have been tough for Porter, the work with the horses came naturally to the actress, who grew up on a ranch near Medicine Hat, Alta., and rode with her sister and dad.

Aside from horsemanship skills, Porter was also able to exercise her acting abilities alongside seasoned veteran Quinn, whose past films include Legends of the Fall.

"I'm a huge fan of his so I was excited when I heard he was on board for this film. He was just really grounded," she says. "The first day I met him he invited me to dinner to rehearse and just build that relationship with him. He's just this amazing person."

Rescued

Horses healthy and happy

The real horses — Belle and Sundance — are now healthy and happy living in adoptive homes. As such, the film crew had to find two equines that looked starving and unhealthy. Enter Lady and Slim, two emaciated horses from Alberta and British Columbia. As the filming went on, the wranglers involved were able to put weight back on these horses. Eventually, Lady was adopted by a couple who worked on the film, while Slim, once at a healthier weight, was returned to his original owner.

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Eight outstanding TV shows of 2012

What was TV like in 2012? As with every year, it was a mix of the ridiculous and the sublime, the sacred and the profane. Excellence persevered with series such as HBO's *Boardwalk Empire* and *Treme*, AMC's *Mad Men* and, of course, AMC's *The Walking Dead* with its icky charm. Bottom line: It's not easy to narrow down a Top 8 anything for TV. Still, once this year's thousands of hours are assessed, some notable achievements emerge, for better or worse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Breaking Bad

It's notable not only for how twisted, funny and shocking it is, but also for how it keeps on upping the ante. This summer's satisfying mini season ended in a most unlikely fashion, hinting that Walter White (series star Bryan Cranston) might actually break free from his life of spiraling disaster and resurrect his happy home. But then, in the last scene, Walter's drug-enforcement-agent brother-in-law made the connection that had always eluded him: The drug lord he's been chasing all this time is Walter! Once again, the series' never-broken promise was upheld.



Fox & Friends

We could easily salute shows that keep us laughing like *The Daily Show* With Jon Stewart, *The Colbert Report* and *Saturday Night Live*. But maybe we could more appropriately single out one obvious wellspring for those shows' humour. I'm referring, of course, to *Fox & Friends*. With their three-part harmony, co-hosts Steve Doocy, Gretchen Carlson and Brian Kilmeade offer up a unique brand of jovially partisan delivery. There's a seamless, finish-one-another's-sentence knack for issuing the network-designated messages as news. Contrary viewpoints are admissible only to be mocked. But mostly cheerful unity prevails, a tidy single-minded package of riffs as predictable as the tides — but as amusing as any deliberate caricature.



Girls



Lena Dunham this, Lena Dunham that. Blah, blah, blah. She, in her mid-20s, created, wrote, directed, produced and starred in a half-hour comedy series about 20-something adulthood, femininity and sexuality. She sparked adulation, conversation, arguments and green-eyed envy of her talent. *Girls* was a series that couldn't be ignored — at least, by pop-culture cognoscenti. It will surely be welcomed back in January with even more attention, if possible (with always the threat of a backlash), as viewers resume arguing: Does the series measure up to all the hype? Nuff said. Up to now, indisputably, *Girls* has been monumental. And a gas.



Homeland

In its second season, this series remained suspenseful, disturbing and riddled with surprises. It mined drama from possibly the most damaged pair of protagonists, opponents and star-crossed lovers in TV history. Marine Sgt. Nicholas Brody (Damian Lewis) was a prisoner of war in Afghanistan who had returned home a national hero and soon-to-be-elected U.S. Congressman — and, covertly, a terrorist turncoat. Carrie Mathison (Claire Danes) was a former CIA agent suffering from a bipolar disorder as well as emotional ties to the man she was obsessed with bringing down. They could have titled this series *Homeland Insecurity*.

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Here Comes Honey Boo Boo and Killer Karaoke

Two new reality shows blazed new trails of idiocy. One capitalized on redneck stereotypes and a six-year-old beauty pageant veteran. The other invited contestants to sing their hearts out while being zapped with electricity or dunked in a vat of snakes. In a TV universe swamped with reality shows, these two stood apart as groundbreaking, inspired and dismaying — if for no other reason than they served as a reminder that each is merely a way station en route to the next extreme in outrageous crassness.

Sons of Anarchy

Tough guys on motorcycles selling guns and drugs. Tough women keeping them in line, or trying to. Rival gangs, corrupt cops and a club membership in turmoil. Jax (Charlie Hunnam), his mother, Gemma (Katey Sagal), and her husband, Clay (Ron Perlman), were the core of a series that, in its fifth season, raged wilder than ever.



Key & Peele

The biracial status of comedy partners Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele (black fathers, white mothers) is notable only because it gives them unique insight sizing up the human condition. And they made the most of that insight on their sketch-and-standup half-hour series. In particular, they scored with Peele in an unsurpassed impersonation of Obama where the unflappable president is joined by Key as "anger translator" Luther, who demonstrates, comically unfiltered, what Obama really thinks.

Smash

This NBC musical drama put a bright, sexy sheen on one of filmdom's most timeless tropes: Hey, kids, let's put on a show! Which *Smash* did, embedding songs and dance into the story of how a Broadway musical comes to life. Sure, *Smash* took knocks for unbelievable plotlines, cardboard characters and trite show tunes. It gave new life to the term "hate-watch" (that act of watching something solely to delight in its awfulness).





Sean Penn

Emotional Penn delivers heartbreaking insight into romantic past

Two years after his divorce from Robin Wright, Sean Penn is opening up about their marriage — and his entire romantic history. “There is no shame in saying that we all want to be loved by someone. As I look back over my life in romance, I don’t feel I’ve ever had that,” he tells *Esquire* magazine. And while he doesn’t mention Wright by name, he does discuss their split. “When you get divorced, all the truths come out, you sit there and go, ‘What the f— was I doing? What was

Quoted

“There is no shame in saying that we all want to be loved by someone.”

Sean Penn

I doing believing that this person was invested in this way?” he says. “Which is a fantastically strong humiliation in the best sense. It can make somebody very bitter and very hard and closed off, but I find it does the opposite to me.”



Lindsay Lohan

Lohan facing jail time again if found guilty of violating probation

Lindsay Lohan’s probation has been revoked following her most recent legal trouble — and could face up to 245 days in jail if found guilty of probation violation, according to *People* magazine. Lohan herself didn’t appear in court this week, with her long-suffering lawyer, Shawn Holley, appearing on her behalf. “We’re all hoping to get this behind us very quickly,” Holley told reporters. Lohan will have to appear at the

next court date on January 15, though, for a hearing on her probation status and a trial on three misdemeanor charges stemming from Lohan’s rear-ending a dump truck with a rented Porsche over the summer. Lohan was also arrested in New York recently for getting into a fight in a nightclub. Her judge, Stephanie Sautner, had previously instructed Lohan to avoid nightclubs and stay out of trouble until her probation is over in 2014.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



30 Rock’s Jenna films final fiery tantrum



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Much to 30 Rock fans’ chagrin, Jane Krakowski, a.k.a. Jenna on the hit show, is getting a little break for the holiday season now that the sitcom is currently filming their last-ever episode.

“It’s a very busy time right now between wrapping up 30 Rock and being a relatively new mom, and

we’re having Christmas dinner at our house this year for the first time,” she says at an event for Bank of America, which raised money for Feeding America.

“Hopefully it’ll be good; we wanted to sort of bring the joy of Christmas to our home, so our whole family is coming over. It should be a nice day and a nice way to sort of start a new chapter with 30 Rock ending.”

“Yesterday we shot Jenna’s last temper tantrum; it was fantastic. They told me to go as far as I wanted to go and the entire crew applauded when it was over because everyone knew it was the last time Jenna would be insulting people and throwing things.

“It was very fun — incredibly satisfying.”



Gabriel Aubry

Aubry in the clear over brawl with Martinez

Gabriel Aubry won’t be facing criminal charges following his Thanksgiving day brawl with Olivier Martinez, the fiancé of ex-girlfriend Halle Berry, according to TMZ. In lieu of a formal hearing, the Los

Angeles City Attorney is expected to hold an informal office meeting to discuss the altercation with Aubry, but the French-Canadian model won’t have to worry about any further repercussions.



Renee Zellweger ALL PHOTOS GETTY

Zellweger, it seems, has a new man in her life

Renee Zellweger apparently has a new man in her life. The actress was spotted at LAX airport smooching musician and producer Doyle Bramhall, who previously dated Sheryl Crow, according to *Us Weekly*. “They

went to college together,” a source says of the new couple. “It’s going really well.” Zellweger was last linked romantically to Bradley Cooper, but they split up in March 2011 after dating for less than two years.

Twitter



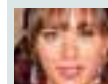
@ElizabethBanks

Snark all you want hipsters, Billy Joel sounds great. The man’s still got it.



@JasonAlexander

Having a blast killing my poker pals at Brad Garrett’s house. One more hand, I won this house.



@iamrashidajones

I love E.T. and still believe he is real.



@GarryShandling

Oh, let the Koreans have outer space.

Home for the holidays with singer Paul Brandt

Christmas traditions. Country superstar shares why this time of the year is special to him and his family

DAN CLAPSON
life@metronews.ca

Taking a break from promoting his new album, just as I am, Paul Brandt — Canadian country music star, husband and father of two — shares some of his favourite things about the Christmas season.

He also offers a simple recipe that's sure to be a hit at your next holiday party.

What's your favourite part about spending the holidays with your family?

I'm often overwhelmed with gratitude for my family and our relationships during Christmas. Moments when we can just be together, celebrating, singing, eating and giving gifts to each other are so precious to me.

Do you have any family traditions that take place on Christmas Day?

A mandarin orange being in the toe of our Christmas stockings. The orange has to be eaten, and stockings emptied, before we can move on to the presents.

Are you pretty hands-on in the kitchen while making the holiday dinner?

I like being hands-on, but my mom and mother-in-law do the majority of the work for the big family dinners. I will happily jump in and carve the turkey... and maybe reserve a choice piece or two for myself as payment for my services.

Do people ever request an impromptu mini-Christmas concert in December? Do you have a favourite holiday song to sing?

I am often asked to sing around Christmas ... and I don't know why, but one of my favourites to sing has always been I'll Be Home For Christmas. Probably one of the most depressing Christmas songs ever, but I love



Paul Brandt loves the holiday spirit. Fruit Cake? Not so much. SUBMITTED

Paul's Pickled Shrimp

When Paul Brandt has guests during the holiday season, he serves up this easy to make Pickled Shrimp appetizer.

1. Thaw shrimp under cool

water and drain. Layer shrimp, onion and bay leaves in shallow dish. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over shrimp. Cover and chill 24 hours. **RECIPE BY PAUL BRANDT**

Ingredients

- 1-2 bags cooked frozen shrimp
- onions, sliced thinly
- several bay leaves
- 1 cup olive oil
- 3/4 cup white vinegar
- 3 tbsp capers with juice
- 2 1/2 tsp celery seed
- 1 1/2 tsp salt
- 6 drops Tabasco sauce
- Juice of 2 lemons

crooning it.

Fruitcake. Love it or hate it?

Is "loathe" too strong a word?

What is the one thing in your life that really makes the holidays complete?

For me, the Christmas season is all about my faith. This faith perspective during the holidays reminds me to go out of my way to think about and help others, and when I do, I feel like the holidays really come together for me in a special and always memorable way.

Liquid Assets

Glass full of holiday spirit



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Though it took a few bottles of bubbly and repeat viewings of A Charlie Brown Christmas, I've finally found my holiday spirit.

While I'm sure some of you will have an alternative to turkey as the star of your Xmas meal, the big bird is it for the majority of us, so this week I'm focusing on white wines to match.

Roast turkey never makes an appearance in the dining room alone. And it's all of the side dishes (like cranberry sauce, herbaceous stuffing and sweet potatoes) that have the greatest chance of clashing with your wine choice.

An off-dry white made with the peppery gewürztraminer grape or medium-dry riesling grape from any country is a great pick. So is one made with sauvignon blanc from France.

I'm partial to a lightly oaked chardonnay. The majority of white French Burgundy wines fit the bill, as do many chards from Australia, Chile, Canada and California.

The 2010 J. Lohr Riverstone Chardonnay (\$18.95 - \$22.99) used to be an oak bomb, but recent vintages have seen it transformed into a mouth full of tropical fruit with butterscotch aromatics and a subtle, turkey-friendly tone of wood.

Next week, the reds. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



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MIX OF SIX
Meghan Duffy
winnipeg@metronews.ca



Time for art

Cindy Dyson, Robert Bateman, Larry Rich and Sharon Cory all have a lot to show off when it comes to art. Their work is on display this weekend at the Birchwood Art Gallery which is located at 6-1170 Taylor Ave. Cindy's paintings are of familiar streets around town sprinkled with her own unique twist. Mr. Bateman's work however would make a great Christmas gift for the family cottage as most of his scenes are set in the great outdoors. Take down those old movie posters from the '80s because it time for art... real art!



Bret Michaels does return!

For real this time. His original tour date on Oct. 21 did not work out so well – as he had to cancel, so his new tour date is now Dec. 16 at 8 p.m. at McPhillips Station Casino. Michaels was the front man for Poison, was on Donald Trump's Celebrity Apprentice, and was even a spokesperson for the American Diabetes Association. Want tickets? Call 1-855-985-5000. Tickets range from \$65 to \$85.



Spread some Christmas Cheer

When I think of Christmas I think of family, friends, fabulous home-made dinners and all the beautifully wrapped presents under the tree. However, many families dread the holiday season because they simply have nothing to give. The Christmas Cheer Board needs people to get involved with their Feed-A-Family program. It's easy, just go to their website, fill out a form and look over the checklist of what your sponsored family needs. For more info email ccbfaf@mymts.net or call 204-989-5680.



Festive funnies: Christmas Comedy Fest

For only \$10 you can laugh the holiday blues away with local comedians performing at the Gas Station Theatre on Dec. 20. The comedy show kicks off at 8 p.m. and on the menu is Ryan Ash, Robert Smith, Lee White and several other Winnipeg comedians all with the same objective – to make you laugh while raising money for LITE, Local Investment Toward Employment, which supports programs that develop and provide employment training to people in need. Visit gasstationtheatre.com for more details.



Presley for Xmas

Christmas... Elvis Style... Rory Allen is just about as close as you're going to get to the hip-swinging, lady lovin' hunk from back in the day! If you are not a diehard fan, chances are you have a lady in your life who is... mine is my Granny. If you are wanting dinner and a show, tickets will cost you \$65 – however if you are just looking for Mr. Presley himself, or should I say Mr. Allen, then tickets will only cost you \$25-\$35. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show runs until Dec. 15 at McPhillips Station Casino.



I want sushi!

Don't we all? Here's the thing with sushi – everyone has their own spot where they order the exact same thing every time. As of late, I stepped out of my bento box and into Sushi Hon on Kenaston Boulevard. People have been writing me urging me to go there and I am so glad I did. The food is great – I even added some new fave's to my sushi list like the giant sushi pizza, something everyone has to try. The staff are all very pleasant, and attentive, and the place is spotless! For a reservation call 204-487-1120.

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MIKE
YAWNEY
For Metro

It's hard to believe just a few years ago e-books were only for the tech savvy. Now, avid readers, commuters and travellers are frequently seen carrying these handy devices.

They are much lighter than a paperback and can store thousands of titles. Here are a few of the best e-readers for your loved one.

Sony Reader — \$139.99

Sony has changed the design of its latest e-reader, dropping a few features like the headphone jack, but the end result is a more affordable device.

With a dedicated public library button, Sony makes it easy to download books from your local library.

Kobo Glo — \$129.99

The perfect e-reader for those who like to read in bed. The Kobo Glo has an adjustable illuminated screen so you can read in any lighting condition. Expandable memory allows for an additional 32GB of storage, basically allowing for more than 30,000 titles to fit on your device.

Kindle Paperwhite — \$139.99 US

If you are planning a trip to the U.S. you might want to pick up this new e-reader from Amazon (available in

select box stores). Like the Glo, the Kindle Paperwhite has an illuminated screen but with higher resolution and contrast. It's light and has a battery capable of lasting eight weeks on a single charge. There is a cheaper version of Paperwhite with ads (Amazon calls these "special offers"), so if this will annoy you make sure you get the "Without Special Offers" model. Also available with 3G for those who like to travel.

Kobo Mini — \$79.99

The world's smallest and lightest e-reader. You can actually fit the Kobo Mini in your pocket.

Despite its palm-sized footprint, this device has the regular features of a larger Kobo, complete with anti-glare screen and long battery life. Perfect for those who read on the go.

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This older model of Amazon's popular e-reader is available in select Canadian stores. It may

be one of the originals, but it remains a favourite for those who like downloading on the go. The 3G connectivity means you can download new titles anywhere you have cell reception at no additional charge. The built-in keyboard is great for those who hate touch-screen typing.



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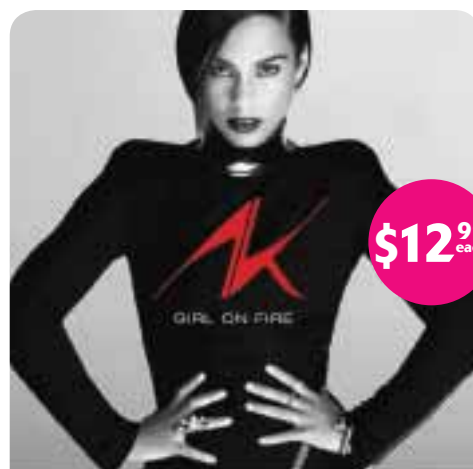
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Choice of Soup
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Southern Fried Chicken
Swedish Meatballs
Perogies with Fried Onions
Scallop Potato
Medley Veggie
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Striped Gloves, \$34.95, available at [Gap, gapcanada.ca](http://Gap.gapcanada.ca).

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Men's Fur Bomber Hat, \$28.99, available at [Mark's, mark's.com](http://Mark's.mark's.com).

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Best books for the ladies on your list

HEATHER
BUCHAN
For Metro

A roundup of the top five books that are sure to engross the women on your Christmas 2012 gift list — and two stocking-stuffer suggestions.

Fifty Shades Trilogy

E. L. James, \$47.85, Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, Paperback Box Set. The three-volume paperback boxed set of the New York Times #1 bestselling trilogy includes *Fifty Shades of Grey*, *Fifty Shades Darker* and *Fifty Shades Freed*.

Dear Life

Alice Munro, \$32.99, McClelland & Stewart, Hardcover.

The award-winning author illuminates the moment a life is shaped — the moment a dream, or sex, or a twist of fate turns a person out of her accustomed path and into another way of being — with

stories set in the area around Lake Ontario where Munro herself lives.

Flight Behavior

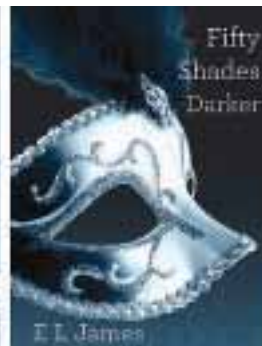
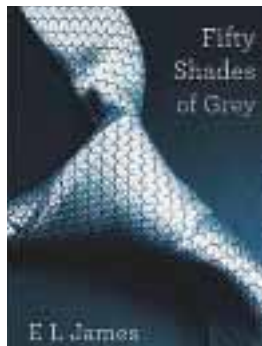
Barbara Kingsolver, \$31.99, HarperCollins Publishers Ltd., Hardcover.

Set in present-day rural Tennessee, this novel tells the story of Dellarobia Turnbow, a restless young farm wife who, after years of isolation and boredom, finds her path in life suddenly opening out.

Let's Pretend This Never Happened: (A Mostly True Memoir)

Jenny Lawson, \$27.50, Penguin USA, Hardcover.

Blogging sensation Jenny Lawson takes readers on a hilarious journey recalling



The three volume *Fifty Shades Trilogy* is a New York Times bestseller, and is sure to be a hit with the book-lovers on your list. iSTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

her bizarre upbringing in Texas, her awkward high school years and her relationship with her long-suffering husband. The premise: the most mortifying moments of our lives are the ones that define us.

Inside
Alix Ohlin, \$22.95, House of Anansi Press Inc., Paperback. Shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Rogers



Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, the book follows four compelling and complex characters from Montreal, New York, Hollywood and Rwanda, and explores the dangers and imperatives of making ourselves available to, and responsible for, those dearest to us.

And check out these paperback stocking stuffers:

Bossypants

Tina Fey, \$17.50, Little, Brown and Company, Paperback.

With frank humour, Fey tells her life story — from her early days as a nerd to



landing on Saturday Night Live to becoming a mom. As the book's description says: Tina Fey reveals all, and proves what we've all suspected: you're no one until someone calls you bossy. (Includes Special, Never-Before-Solicited Opinions on Breastfeeding, Princesses, Photoshop, the Electoral Process and Italian Rum Cake!)

The Imposter Bride

Nancy Richler, \$17.99, HarperCollins Publishers Ltd., Paperback.

The story centres around Lily Azerov, a young woman arriving in postwar Montreal to meet her betrothed, Sol Kramer. But Lily is not who she claims to be. Who is Lily and what happened to young woman whose identity she stole?



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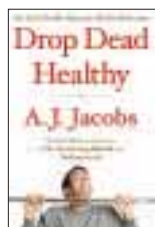
**HEATHER
BUCHAN**
For Metro

A rundown of the top books that are sure to engross any man on your gift list this Christmas.

The Racketeer

John Grisham, Random House, \$28.95, Paperback.

In this wickedly clever new novel from the master of the legal thriller, judge Raymond Fawcett is found dead in his remote lakeside cabin and one man, Malcolm Bannister,



a.k.a. the Racketeer, knows who killed the federal judge and why.

Drop Dead Healthy: One Man's Humble Quest for Bodily Perfection

A.J. Jacobs, Simon & Schuster, \$18.99, Paperback.

Jacobs, editor-at-large at Esquire magazine, explores every aspect of the body in this New York Times Best-seller and, over the course of two years, subjects himself to a grueling yet entertaining regimen of exercise, diets and

experiments in his quest to makeover his body and become the healthiest person in the world. Part memoir, part adventure, part how-to manual, the book is not only informative and inspiring but a tremendously good laugh.

419

Will Ferguson, Penguin Group Canada, \$20, Paperback.

Winner of the 2012 Scotiabank Giller Prize, this novel is described as both epic in its sweep and intimate in its portrayal of human endurance. Author Ferguson, an internationally bestselling travel writer, takes readers deep into the labyrinth of lies that

is the world's most insidious Internet scam. Lives intersect. Worlds collide and it all begins with a single email: "Dear Sir, I am the daughter of a Nigerian diplomat and I need your help."

Mortality

Christopher Hitchens, McClelland & Stewart, \$22.99, Hardcover.

Based on award-winning columnist Hitchens' columns in Vanity Fair that chronicled his year-and-a-half battle with esophageal cancer, Mortality is the writer's most honest and reflective. Throughout the course of his ordeal, which ended with his death in December 2011, Hitchens

bravely refused the solace of religion, preferring to confront death with both eyes open.

Cloud Atlas

David Mitchell, Knopf Canada, \$24.95, Paperback.

In this captivating 2004 novel (from which the current science fiction drama starring Halle Berry and Tom Hanks was adapted), award-winning British author David Mitchell erases the boundaries of language, genre and time to offer a meditation on humanity's dangerous will to power

and where it may lead us through six nested stories spanning centuries and continents.

Whirl Away: Stories

Russell Wangersky, Thomas Allen Publishers, \$21.95, Paperback.

Everyone has a particular personal skill that they use to keep their lives moving forward when things suddenly become difficult. This collection of short fiction looks at what happens when people's personal coping skills go awry.



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Hit all the right notes

Ambiance. Music from these MP3 players and accessories can add to holiday atmosphere



MIKE
YAWNEY
For Metro

Music can invigorate, relax, and inspire. It's no wonder so many choose to share the gift of music during the holidays. Here are the best MP3 related gifts you can put under the tree.

iPod Touch — \$299 and up
All the features of an iPhone without the actual phone. Apple's iPod Touch remains one of the best MP3 players on the market, probably due to the fact you can do so much with it. Play games, download apps, or video chat with loved ones. The new stylish design and retina



screen ensure this will be a hit on Christmas morning.

Samsung Galaxy Player 4.2 — \$179.99

A device for those who prefer Android over Apple. The Galaxy Player puts everything you like

about Android smartphones into a small portable device minus the monthly fees. Music, apps, camera ... it's all here, including FM radio!

Belkin Bluetooth Music Receiver — \$49.95

Play music from your Bluetooth-enabled devices through your home stereo



or stand-alone speakers — wirelessly. This tiny device will work with any speaker or stereo as long as it has an "aux in" port. Despite its small size, it transmits up to 33 feet away and will remember up to six paired devices.



Monster Inspiration Over-Ear Headphones — \$349.99

Premium headphones for the audiophile in your life. These noise-cancelling headphones feature exceptional music production with ultra-comfortable ear cushions for extended wear. Remote and microphone cables come

Soundfreak Sound Kick — \$99.99



included so you can take calls on your smartphone without missing a beat. You can also swap out the headband for a more personalized look.

Soundfreak Sound Kick — \$99.99

Great sound without breaking the bank. This portable Bluetooth speaker not only gives you seven hours of play on a single charge, it also features a USB port so you can charge your MP3 player or smartphone. Brilliant!



Sony XBA Balanced Armature Sports Earbuds — \$99.99

Ideal for those who listen to music while working out. These earbuds are not only



SiriusXM Lynx — \$299.99

A satellite radio receiver like no other. Listen to SiriusXM in your vehicle or in your home via Wi-Fi. This small, stylish receiver allows you to pause, rewind and record satellite radio, stream to Bluetooth speakers in your home, or play your own MP3s thanks to a built-in memory

sweat-resistant, they are waterproof, meaning you can wash them to ensure they are clean and ready for your next workout. Washing your MP3 player, however, isn't recommended.

card slot.

This is also the first satellite radio receiver to feature a high-definition touchscreen.

Clockwise, from top, iPod Touch — \$299 and up, SiriusXM Lynx — \$299.99, Belkin Bluetooth Music Receiver — \$49.95, Sony XBA Balanced Armature Sports Earbuds — \$99.99, Samsung Galaxy Player 4.2 — \$179.99.



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Tips for toys



RENEE LINDO
YummyMummyClub.ca

As parents, we want to make good decisions on how we spend our money and the value we receive in return, especially when it comes to toys.

A new toy can become "old" very quickly as the toy is no longer interesting or the kids have mastered or outgrown it. A trip to the local toy store, especially over the holidays, can be quite overwhelming for parents — there are thousands of toys available. Here are a few quick tips to keep in mind as you boldly and confidently choose the perfect toys this holiday season.

Determine the toy's age appropriateness

Every age and every stage of development requires different challenges and support. Evaluate the "fit" for your child in terms of age, maturity, developmental level, and where their interests lie.

Evaluate the educational component/value



Toy selection can be overwhelming.
ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Look for toys that teach more than one thing and can be used in several different ways. For example, building blocks can teach ABCs, colours and spatial relations, and are also used to build unlimited structures. Similarly, construction sets allow unlimited creations and activities.

Can the toy grow with your child?

You want toys that have utility across several different age ranges. My baby uses blocks because they are colourful and visually exciting and my eight-year-old uses the same



blocks to build forts. I think that's good value for money.

Look for problem-solving opportunities

This is why I love puzzles. The best way for children to learn is with puzzles, and they are fun. Puzzles help to develop the all-important logical and abstract "out-of-box" thinking. Puzzles, sorters and stackers are great options.

Encourage imagination

Creative play is another important consideration. By about three years old, storytelling, dress-up and make-believe are a big part of playtime. These activities help formulate their ideas and build literacy skills.

In a nutshell, you want toys that support and augment the learning process with a high fun factor.

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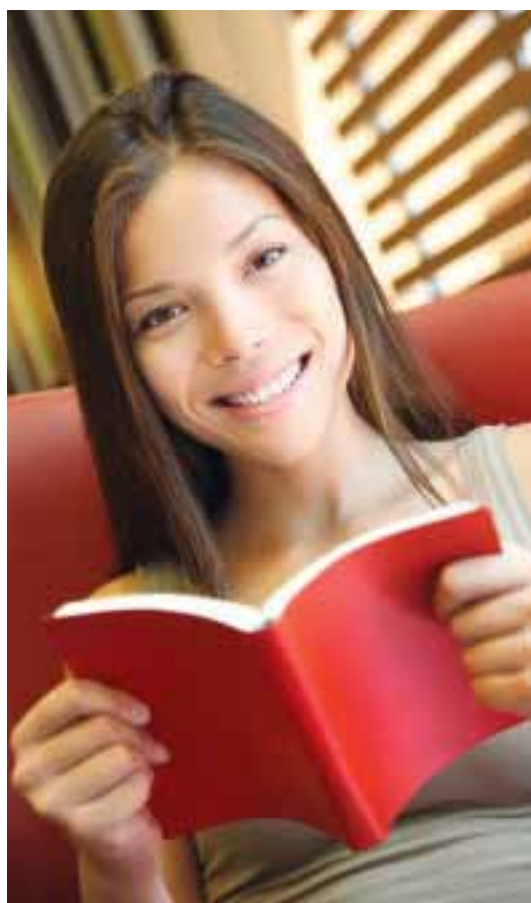
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There are many options for the teen reader on your list. iStockphoto/THINKSTOCK

Best bets for teen book-lovers



**HEATHER
BUCHAN**
For Metro

Here, a selection of the best books to leave under the Christmas tree, or in a stocking, for those hard-to-buy-for teens in your life this holiday season.

All of the books are also available as eBooks.

Beautiful Redemption

Kami Garcia, \$21, Little Brown Books for Young Readers, Hardcover.

The fourth and final book in the Beautiful Creatures series is filled with plot twists that'll keep teen readers turning the pages. The book follows the journey of small-town teen Ethan Wate who falls in love with Lena Duchannes, a girl with supernatural powers that unveil a secretive and cursed side to Ethan's hometown. It's been declared a spell-binding love story.

The Diviners

Libba Bray, \$24, Little Brown Books for Young Readers, Hardcover.

This supernatural thriller set in Jazz Age New York centers on Evangeline O'Neill, a 17-year-old from small town Ohio who is sent to live with her uncle in Manhattan. Adventure ensues. This book is the first instalment in a series.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower

Stephen Chbosky, \$12, MTV Books, Paperback.
A critically acclaimed coming-of-age novel, narrated by "Charlie" — a shy and introverted teen who writes a series of letters to an anonymous person describing various scenes in his life — explores topics of sexuality, introversion, drugs and the awkwardness of adolescence.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Jeff Kinney, \$13, Harry N. Abrams, Hardcover.

The first in a series of innovatively illustrated books of the same name, this realistic fiction novel about a boy named Greg Hefley and his struggles in middle school was named a New York Times bestseller when it was released in hardcover in 2007.

Tilt

Ellen Hopkins, \$22, Margaret K. McElderry Books, Hardcover.

A riveting novel from New York Times best-selling author, Ellen Hopkins, follows three teens whose stories are interconnected through their parents' family relationships.

And try these stocking stuffers:

There is no Dog

Meg Rosoff, \$13, Doubleday Canada, Paperback.

In this darkly funny novel,

the protagonist is God, who happens to be a 19-year-old boy living in the present day.

Don't Turn Around

Michelle Gagnon, \$20, HarperCollins Publishers, Hardcover.

This is the story of Noa, a 16-year-old who has been a victim of the system since her parents died, who holds the key to a terrible secret and there are those who'd stop at nothing to silence her for good.

Unraveling Isobel

Eileen Cook, \$18.99, Simon Pulse, Hardcover.

This darkly comic novel blends paranormal mystery and romance with humour.

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Turn your party into a Hope event

Charity. Hosting a holiday bash? Now you can add a feel-good element to your fun



ASTRID
VAN DEN BROEK
For Metro

Looking to do something meaningful this time of year?

While you could collect food for your local food bank or sign up to serve a holiday meal to the homeless, you could also turn your annual holiday open house into a Hosting for Hope event.

Hosting for Hope, which is a partnership initiative be-



Hosting for Hope is a partnership initiative between the Canadian Women's Foundation and HomeSense. CONTRIBUTED

tween the Canadian Women's Foundation and HomeSense, is a national event in which your party, brunch, lunch, tea or any other holiday party this

season can be turned into a fundraiser for local women's shelters and violence prevention programs.

"We're hoping that Can-

adians, who will already be throwing parties this season regardless, could register their party at hostingforhope.ca and then ask the guests to

make a donation instead of bringing a bottle of wine," says Tamara Robbins Griffith, public relations manager for Toronto-based HomeSense.

Those hosting the parties register with a \$50 contribution to the initiative and from there they can send e-vites, messages and post pictures of their event. In turn, HomeSense will send a \$25 thank you gift card to the host.

The site is also home for a number of party planning tips — such as how to dress up your powder room for the event, to how to make your own cake stand, to ideas for a good party playlist, and on the flipside, also allows you to find a shelter near you where

your money would go as well as detailing exactly how your donation will be spent.

This is the first year of the initiative and Robbins Griffith hopes it'll prove successful and turn into an annual event.

"We're trying to make it as easy as possible," adds Robbins Griffith. "This is a way to feel really good about the consumerism of the season. We know you're going to spend money throwing your party but wouldn't you rather have your guests make a donation that goes to local women's shelters and violence prevention programs in your community instead of bringing you potentially a hostess gift that you don't need?"

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Peppermint Grahams, \$11.50, available at Indigo, chapters.indigo.ca.



Life Brand Premium Dark Chocolate Sea Salt Caramels, \$9.99,

Black Magic Box Of Chocolates, \$5.99, available at all major Canadian retailers, nestle.ca.



Good lighting is a must at a holiday party. EYE CANDY IMAGES/THINKSTOCK

Party time. Tips for your holiday bash

Whether you're hosting a party for 30 or 300 people this holiday season, it's important to plan and prepare leading up to the big day.

Selecting the menu, creating the holiday décor, and ensuring the space is spotless before guests arrive, is paramount. Here are some tips and tricks for hosting the perfect holiday party:

- Start with a colour theme: red and gold or white and silver are both perfect for a holiday party. Incorporate these colours into everything from your invitations to your decorations.
- Create vignettes throughout your home by grouping candles, ornaments, and flowers in the most visible spaces.
- Save yourself the mess and use an artificial tree. Artificial trees look just as good as the real ones so your guests won't be able to tell the difference.
- Good lighting is a must. Use lights on dimmers or consider adjusting the lighting with candles. There's no such thing as too many candles — don't be shy about using votives, pillars, and tapers everywhere.
- Sit down dinners can be intimidating so set up a variety of food stations instead. Set up a turkey carving station and let people help themselves to sides and stuffing.

NEWS CANADA

Make up for last year's gift.

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Don't miss winter's beauty

As temperatures drop, many Canadians are tempted to enter a sort of hibernation, abandoning the outdoor activities they love in favour of nights spent in the warmth of home.

While the days may be shorter, you can still take advantage of the sunlight and enjoy the many parks, trails and conservation areas that are found across Canada.

"The Canadian landscape is breathtaking all year round, and Canadians should get outside and enjoy the beautiful

natural environment no matter what the season," says Mary Desjardins, the executive director of TD Friends of the Environment Foundation.

"However, it is important to be mindful of the natural environment when enjoying the great outdoors, especially if we want to protect it for generations to come."

Here are some tips for Canadians looking to explore the great outdoors this winter:

- Maintain a zero footprint while outdoors to help keep

the environment pristine. Take all garbage with you, and don't disturb the natural environment any more than is necessary.

- Watch your step, and be sure to stay on marked trails. Many nature areas maintain marked trails — complete with guide signs and posts. Staying on marked trails will keep you from getting lost, and ensure you're not venturing onto marshes, protected habitats and other dangers that may be hidden

beneath the snowfall.

- Stay hydrated. Be sure to drink plenty of water, especially if you're jogging outdoors during the winter. While you may not sweat as much as you do in the summer, it is important to keep hydrated when you plan to be outdoors for long periods of time.

- Bring a map, guidebook or mobile phone with you. If you are exploring an area for the first time, if the weather worsens, or you become dis-

Stay calm. Planning for the unexpected

Hosting friends and family, dealing with unexpected guests, and throwing an impromptu dinner party can leave any host feeling frazzled during the holiday season. Advanced planning and the right tools will ensure your guests always feel welcome.

Always expect the unexpected guest and keep the following on hand:

- Stock up on frozen hors d'oeuvres.
- Hide a sweeper with disposable cloths in the closet. When a friend lets you know they're just around the corner, you can quickly sweep before they pull into the driveway.
- Keep a few bottles of sparkling wine chilling in the fridge along with a couple of bottles of vodka and plenty of ice in the freezer. Add a splash of cranberry juice or frozen berries and you have a festive cocktail in a flash.
- Put out lots of candles — there is no such thing as enough! Lighting a scented candle can both mask unwanted odours — in case you just burnt a batch of cookies — and create a welcoming holiday ambience.

NEWS CANADA



Stay active this winter. NEWS CANADA

oriented you can find your way to safety.

NEWS CANADA

FOCUS ON OTHERS THIS SEASON

With Christmas just around the corner, it's pretty much crunch time for getting your shopping done. Have you considered giving "charitable gifts" instead of presents — it's a really good idea.

"It is the time of year for thinking of others and reflecting on what contribution we can make to the world," says Maggie Leithhead, president and CEO of Charity Village. "Most of us don't need more in our lives, so giving is a marvellous way to celebrate the holiday ... and you're not walking around with more ties or cheeky coffee mugs."

Owen Charters, CEO of Canada Helps, an online resource for donors and charities, says, "When we are celebrating with gifts and material items and living our lives of abundance, this is a chance to focus on the other side."

Giving a CanadaHelps gift card that supports a charity to a child in your life is a good idea, says Charters, "because it allows them to learn what charity is, why it's important and how to give ... and to think about, after all those great gifts under the tree, what about those who don't have gifts?"

There are so many ways to give. An animal lover, for example, might like



ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

to adopt a guide dog puppy and provide funds for its training. A nature lover would appreciate donations to the Nature Conservancy of Canada to help protect habitat for wildlife such as the Canada lynx, grizzly bear or snowy owl. For

\$50, you can pay for cataract surgery for someone in Nepal through SEVA. Plan Canada offers similar options, from buying baby chicks to help a Third World family support itself to up to \$250 for classroom essentials. For \$28, you can

GIFT OF KINDNESS

In the Spirit of Giving, Charity Village posts random acts of kindness on its website, as well as Facebook and Twitter pages. Here are some ideas:

- Give someone a sprig of thyme — with a promise to help them with anything they want.
- Every time you grocery shop, buy extra canned foods and give them to the food bank.
- Bake cupcakes and take them to your office.
- Give up your seat on public transit or pay someone else's fare.
- At the coffee shop, buy a coffee for someone waiting in line behind you.

buy clean water kits for two families through unicef.ca/inspire.

Leithhead suggests starting with an organization that is meaningful to you or the person you are giving to — think about whether he or she has an interest in the arts or environment or international development or health care.

— Ylva Van Buuren

POSITIVE IMPACT

WITH MANITOBA LUNG ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS SEALS

For more than 100 years, The Manitoba Lung Association has been making a positive impact on the health of Manitobans. The association is a registered charity that designs and delivers programs to help prevent and manage lung disease. More than one in five Manitobans suffer from conditions like chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD).

"If it wasn't for The Manitoba Lung Association I don't know that I would be here right now," says Linda Cameron, who has learned to cope with COPD thanks to programs delivered by The Manitoba Lung Association.

"The Better Breathers Support Group has been so beneficial for me," Cameron says. "I get useful tips and information and can



ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

connect with other people who have lung disease. It prevents me from being isolated, which often happens to people with COPD."

The Christmas Seal campaign represents one of The Manitoba Lung Association's top sources of funds. Thousands of Manitobans support the campaign each year, donating money in exchange for token gifts of note-paper, gift tags and envelope stickers. Over the years, money raised through the campaign has funded and supported research, prevention and treatment programs.

Originally founded in 1904 as the Sanatorium Board of Manitoba to house and treat people suffering from tuberculosis, The Manitoba Lung Association now focuses its efforts on lung diseases like asthma, COPD, sleep apnea and tuberculosis; tobacco reduction; occupational lung health and air quality. For thousands of Manitobans, the Christmas Seal is an important part of their holiday tradition.

To donate to the campaign or send an e-card, visit mb.lung.ca.

THE LUNG ASSOCIATION™

By donating to The Lung Association's Christmas Seal campaign, you are helping the one in five Manitobans with breathing difficulties.

Call 204-774-5501 to donate or go to www.mb.lung.ca

YOU CAN BRING HOPE AND CHANGE

WITH GIFTS OF HOPE FROM PLAN CANADA

Thinking of giving your child's teachers or daycare employees a more meaningful gift this year?

If so, then maybe charitable gift giving is for you. It was for Ruth Pogue and her husband, Greg McLean, who opted to give their children's teachers Gifts of Hope through Plan Canada rather than yet another coffee mug and gift card. Gifts of Hope is Plan Canada's ethical gift giving program focused on bringing change and hope to communities in need.

"I was looking for something different to give," says the Calgary-based Pogue. "And I'd just received a Plan Canada catalogue for Gifts of Hope in the mail. I

started thumbing through it and there were some great gifts in there for \$25 to \$30 so I started giving those at Christmastime to teachers."

For Pogue it was a way to give a gift with more impact — after all, Plan, a non-profit charity, reaches more than 90,000 communities and 174.2 million people around the world. "What I like about Plan is that a lot of their Gifts of Hope are providing solutions to people, be it water or nutrition or maternity clinics," Pogue adds. "So they're enduring gifts or opportunities to help on an ongoing basis."

That's the intention of these gifts, notes Jeff Cornett, Plan Canada's vice-president of donor marketing. "Whether it is clean water for a family, a mango tree for a classroom to teach children gardening skills, or a goat that will provide milk, nourishment, and a source of income for a



Ruth Pogue with her husband, Greg McLean.

PLAN CANADA PHOTO

family, these gifts create a real difference in the lives of children and can help lift entire communities out of poverty."

Last year's enduring gift that Pogue selected was the peanut butter project, a gift that, for \$35, helps provide a valuable source of protein for growing children, and supports local businesses as well. The gift funded women's peanut butter co-operatives whose work included processing the peanuts, and also provided them with training in business and marketing.

While the catalogue is available online at plangifts.com, you can also order the gifts by phone at 1-800-387-1418 or mail in the catalogue order form. And along with giving the gift, Plan also followed up and sent Pogue and fellow donors updates about how some of the projects were faring.

"With Plan Canada, I feel like there really is a plan," Pogue says.

"It's helping these communities to further themselves. You feel your money is going to something worthy."

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

When donating to charities, many of us pick a donation area that's significant to us. And it's the ability to direct donations that donors like Kathy Crowell enjoy when she purchases a Gift of Hope through the non-profit charity Plan Canada.

Gifts of Hope is Plan Canada's ethical gift giving program focused on bringing change and hope to communities in need.

"I've given my sister Gifts of Hope for the past few years as Christmas gifts," Crowell says.

"I've always given livestock as she is a true animal lover."

Gifts of Hope allow donors to direct funds and engage in Plan's key areas of work such as education, health, clean water, micro-finance and livelihood, and disaster and emergency response.

Many of Plan Canada's gifts also have a donation matching system in which contributions can be matched with a donation from generous funding partners. For example, a \$70 donation to provide maternity beds and supplies has a 6-to-1 match ratio, meaning a \$70 donation actually ends up having a value of \$490.

While a number of Gifts of Hope continue to be popular — such as a mango tree (\$15 each, 10 for \$120), classroom essentials (\$17 for one child, \$250 for an entire classroom) to even purchasing a goat (\$75 each, \$775/herd), which can help provide income and food for families — this year, Plan Canada has also added a number of new gifts. These include: Newborn checkup (\$12); help orphaned children affected by HIV (\$75); build and stock a school kitchen (\$500); and more.



Kathy Crowell in the Virunga mountains with students who are learning a traditional dance.

PLAN CANADA PHOTO

"In addition, this year anyone who purchases a Gift of Hope will be entered to win a trip to Tanzania in 2013 to see Gifts of Hope in action," says Jeff Cornett, Plan Canada's vice-president of donor marketing.

That's what Crowell had a chance to do last year when she travelled to Rwanda

through the organization.

"We were able to see the school that was being built, a clinic, a livestock co-op and a micro-financing project," she says.

"Plan Canada is truly making a difference in the world — these Gifts of Hope work. My experience in Rwanda was life-changing."

FIVE GIFTS FOR LESS THAN \$50

Here are five gifts less than \$50 you can get through Plan Canada's Gifts of Hope program.

NEWBORN CHECKUP (\$12): To help support workers who visit moms and their newborns in the first three days of the baby's birth, this kind of checkup can help improve infant mortality rates.

3 BABY CHICKS (\$17): Once they start laying eggs, chickens become an instant source of income, often for women. They are also an important teaching tool for young girls to learn livestock management skills.

GIRLS' HYGIENE ESSENTIALS (\$25): This gift is essential and can be handed out in critical times such as war/conflict or a natural disaster.

ANTI-MALARIA BED NETS (\$30): These nets are locally made and can cover an entire family to help prevent the spread of malaria.

ENDLESS HARVEST (\$40): An all-in-one gift that provides gardening essentials such as seeds, tools and training in pest control and farm management.

EMERGENCY ESSENTIALS (\$50): For natural disasters or emergencies of any kind, this gift allows Plan to get into a crisis zone fast to help distribute clean water, tarps, high-energy food rations, hygiene supplies and more.

Give a Gift of Hope

Why a goat?

When you give a goat, you provide a family in a developing country with nourishment, the makings of a family business, and a new future. **Gifts of Hope** are real gifts to real projects that change real lives.

Charitable Registration Number: 11892 8993 RR0001



Think outside
the gift box

Shop now at plangifts.com

Plan is one of the world's oldest and largest international development agencies, working in partnership with millions of people around the world to end global poverty.



BRINGING JOY TO THE HOLIDAYS

OSBORNE HOUSE PROVIDES SUPPORT TO FAMILIES IN NEED

“Oh, there’s no place like home for the holidays” goes the 1954 chesnut tune by Al Stillman.

But for the victims of domestic violence, those women and their children don’t have that option. When they arrive at the doorstep of Osborne House, the women’s shelter faces the challenge of bringing some sense of peace and normalcy during the most stressful time — a Christmas where home is not a welcoming place. Keeping the magic of Christmas alive for the children is a task Osborne House faces with great anticipation.

“You will never see more joy on a child’s face than when Santa bellows down our dormitory hallway,” says Osborne CEO Barb Judt. “The kids here are shocked that he found them. So are the moms.”

As CEO, Judt wears many hats. Negotiating pricing with new vendors, taking care of plumbing issues, dialoguing with the public, the press, and local government — it’s all in a day’s work. And it’s all worth it.

“I love meeting clients and their children for the first time. They make my heart smile,” Judt says. “My office is a very popular spot, actually, and not just because I have the world’s biggest candy bowl on my table. We celebrate birthdays and all holidays; we go on field trips, have movie nights, and lots of other events.”

The children even attend school.

“We partnered with the Winnipeg School Division No. 1 a few years ago, and so we have a tutoring program each morning for the children unable to attend their own schools,” Judt explains. “Our teacher, Jade, is a special person — kind, loving, and very patient. We absolutely



XXXXPHOTO-CREDITXXXX

love her. And the children thrive under her guidance. The difference she has made is incredible.”

Osborne House and facilities like it provide support to those in need. In turn, these facilities require support of their own — from government and their community.

This past year, the government of Manitoba conducted a review of all shelters within the province, announcing a multi-year strategy to enhance services

and address funding shortfalls. Osborne House welcomed it.

“The Minister of Family of Services and Labour, the Honorable Jennifer Howard, truly grasps the enormous task we’re facing in providing emergency services to women and children,” Judt says. “Her practical knowledge has served her well in leading a shift in attitude towards the needs of victims of domestic violence. Osborne House is very fortunate to have the support of so many Winni-

OFFERING VARIETY OF SERVICES

Osborne House is Winnipeg’s largest and longest-serving women’s shelter. Alongside emergency services, it offers clients a variety of support services, including referrals to appropriate community resources, safety planning, assistance with protection order applications, and advocacy. Both one-on-one and group counseling sessions are available for women and children. Osborne House works with the Winnipeg Police Service, the RCMP, and out-of-province law enforcement groups, too. And its crisis line is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

These services are not well-known to many Winnipeggers; at least those who haven’t faced domestic violence. But that can change quickly. “When a crisis touches their family or friends, Osborne House becomes front and centre,” says CEO Barb Judt.

peggers, the minister included.”

Osborne House has also been the recipient of proceeds from a variety of community-based fundraising events and activities. These include realtor’s commissions, garage sales, the “Click Purple” campaign, charity breakfasts and barbecues, and locally produced calendar, “Be Your Own Kind of Beautiful.”

And, of course, Osborne House continues to benefit from non-monetary gifts as well.

“When you donate goods to Osborne House, we don’t need to purchase them ourselves,” Judt says. “That frees money up for something else. Something the women and children here really need.”

Osborne House can always use your help. To find out how you can donate this season — or any time — contact Barb Judt at 204-942-7373, ext 230.

SUCCESS STORIES MAKE WORK AT OSBORNE HOUSE WORTHWHILE

My name is Holly Pluchinski. I’m a staff member here at Osborne House, and my one-year anniversary is fast approaching. What better time, then, to reflect?

I first learned about Osborne House and its services while working at a family law firm. When an opportunity to work here came up, I went for it. My official title is assistant to the CEO, but,

like many of my colleagues, I adopt any role necessary to keep our shelter functioning.


I’ve gotten to know many wonderful people since starting this job. Among those I got to know best are a mother and her toddler, who arrived at Osborne House shortly before I did. Day after day, I watched the little girl flourish in

her new environment, while her mom, slowly, regained her confidence and sense of self.

When the day came for them to move on, I was hesitant to ask where they were going. I feared the answer would be “back home.” Much to my relief, the mother told me she’d found them a place of their own. I gave the little girl a scarf

my mom had knitted for her, hugged them both, and wished them well. The mother thanked me and everyone at the shelter for supporting them.

Success stories like this one make our work at Osborne House so worthwhile. And they make me so proud of the year I’ve spent here. I hope it’ll be the first of many more.

 @OsborneHouseWPG

 facebook.com/pages/
Osborne-House-Inc/
205825919485040



Osborne House

A Safe Place for Women & Children



Winter Wish List

SO OFTEN, OUR COURAGEOUS WOMEN AND CHILDREN COME TO OUR DOORSTEP WITH NOTHING BUT THE CLOTHING ON THEIR BACK. THIS HAPPENS WHEN THE MOMENT ARISES FOR THEM TO ESCAPE THE VIOLENCE IN THEIR HOMES SAFELY OR THE OUTSTANDING WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE HAS COME TO THEIR RESCUE AND THEY'VE BEEN WHISKED FROM THEIR HOME INTO A POLICE CAR. IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT NEW UNUSED ITEMS.

EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS NEEDED FOR WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN WHILE AT OSBORNE HOUSE INC.

- All clothing items one would wear on a daily basis ie: sweatpants, undergarments, outergarments, socks, pajamas, housecoats, slippers, shoes, runners. Size large and up (including plus size).
- Deodorant, shampoo & conditioner, shower gel, soap, body lotion, powder, facial cleanser, tampons, pads, small hairdryer, hair brush/comb, Kleenex.
- Size 5 & 6 diapers, diaper cream, baby powder, baby wipes, baby shampoo & lotion, teething rings, soothers, baby bottles, baby monitors, snugglies, strollers, playpens.
- Non-perishable food items for our 24x7 kitchen including baby food and cereal.
- Bath towels, facecloths, twin bed sheet sets & blankets
- First Aid Supplies
- Toys up to age 16 (non-violent), Lego, coloring books and craft kits & supplies.
- Gift cards from Tim Horton's, McDonalds and grocery stores

Osborne House Inc. is a registered charity
(Charitable Tax No. 89916 4487 RR0001)

NICE TO HAVE:

- Bus tickets for adults and children, fabric softener sheets, journals, diaries, pens.
- Sunglasses (you see, sometimes our clients want to go out but keep black eyes out of sight).
- Books, puzzles, dvd's (non-violent) for children (we strongly encourage literacy).

BY THE NUMBERS

Osborne House serves women and children across all cultures and backgrounds.

- 9000 phone calls a year
- 5000/yr use our shelter
- 35-40% minorities & 1500 per year new Canadians
- Hundreds of school children, 200 kids over 5, and teens fleeing abuse
- 1400 have abusive/addictive lifestyles

NO CLIENT FEE EVER

PLEASED TO ACCEPT DONATIONS IN THE FORM OF CHEQUE, CASH, OR PAYPAL (VISA & MASTERCARD)

Osborne House Inc. P.O. Box 397, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2H6

Or Call 204-942-7373 ext. 229 or barbarajudt@osbornehouseinc.ca

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT OSBORNE HOUSE!

ALL ABOUT THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

The holidays are all about the spirit of giving and family — especially children. The same priorities guide CancerCare Manitoba all year round.

CancerCare Manitoba is the provincial agency that delivers programs and services focused on the prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and care of cancer. The CancerCare Manitoba Foundation is the independent charity that fundraises money exclusively for CancerCare Manitoba.

“We encourage people to recognize the connection between the holiday spirit and the work that we support,” says Annitta Stenning, executive director of CancerCare Manitoba Foundation. “The funds we raise help everyone in Manitoba cope with cancer — not just those who have the disease, but also their families and loved ones.”

Pediatric research is one of the important areas of focus at CancerCare Manitoba and the foundation helps fund pediatric clinical trials. This research has had a

FUNDS STAY LOCAL

All funds raised by the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation go to programs and services based in Manitoba. CancerCare Manitoba partners with regional health authorities to provide cancer treatment, support and services in Winnipeg and 17 communities across the province, bringing care and support closer to home for all Manitobans facing cancer.

dramatic impact on the lives of thousands of young Manitobans with cancer, such as Troy Woods.

An active teen and competitive hockey player, Woods was diagnosed with a form of leukemia at age 17. He responded well to treatment, which included drugs that did not exist just a few years ago.

Woods is now almost finished his treatments and proudly supports the founda-



Troy Woods

XXXXPHOTO-CREDITXXXX

tion's fundraising efforts.

“Clinical trials save the lives of people like me, and I wanted other teenagers going through this to have that opportunity,” Woods says. “It did wonders to feel that I had the whole community behind me, but I know not everyone has that kind of support.”

Prior to 1970, fewer than 20 per cent of children and adolescents who shared

Woods' diagnosis survived. Today, the survival rate is approximately 80 per cent thanks to research, particularly clinical trials. Donors from every walk of life have given more than \$79 million to the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation since 2000 to help deliver the best research, patient care, treatment and support. To learn more, visit the foundation's website at cancercarefdn.mb.ca/NetCommunity/

Consider a gift to the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation this holiday season



We are proud to be the only charity raising funds exclusively for CancerCare Manitoba. Every donation stays here in Manitoba to help the people you love. For more information, please call 204-787-4143 or email donate@cancercare.mb.ca.

MANY WAYS TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

WITH A DONATION TO SALVATION ARMY

If you want to donate to those in need, the Salvation Army wants to hear from you.

You know the Army well. You have seen its familiar red kettles on street corners, in malls and at transit stops. Those kettles are minded by Salvation Army volunteers, dressed brightly for the season, ringing or jingling their bells. Some volunteers even sing. It's their job to offer you a quick and easy way to donate — and your contribution is always appreciated.

But this is just one of the ways the Salvation Army helps you give. You can donate any amount you want by mailing a cheque or money order, payable to the Army; or you can donate over the phone, using your credit card. You can even donate online. The gift can be made in your name, or in honour of a friend or loved one. It can be made in their memory, too. The choice is yours.

Donations take many forms. Some people choose to donate their publicly listed securities to the Salvation Army. The Army provides these donors with a charitable tax receipt for the full market value on the day it receives the securities in its account.

Clothing and household goods are

always needed. To give, simply fill a bag with new or gently-used items, then drop it off at your nearest Salvation Army Thrift Store. All net proceeds go to support vital Salvation Army programs and services in your community.

Thrift Stores are “green,” too. Every item a Thrift Store accepts — saleable or not — is one less item that ends up in a landfill.

You can even donate your time. Salvation Army volunteers come from all backgrounds and all ages; and they help out in a myriad of ways. You could even be a bell-ringer, minding a kettle of your own.

However you choose to give, you will be part of the Salvation Army's 130-year tradition of giving — one that will continue for as long as people in your community need help.

To find out more about how you can donate clothing and household items this season, phone 800-757-4483 (PLS-GIVE), or visit thriftstore.ca.

And to inquire about corporate donations, contact Colin Mackenzie, product sourcing manager, at 204-953-1514.



CONTRIBUTED

CHARITABLE GIFT GIVING

METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING

A colorful poster for the Salvation Army Thrift Store's holiday donation campaign. The background is light blue with white snowflakes. At the top left is a yellow sun. The text reads: "Your support helps make a difference in your neighbourhood!" in a cursive font. Below this, in large red letters, is "The Salvation Army Thrift Stores are in urgent need of your clothing donations this holiday season!". To the right of this text is the Salvation Army logo and the words "THRIFT STORE" in blue. Below the main text, in blue, is "Call 1-800-757-4483 for donation information", "Go to Thriftstore.ca for a list of store locations", and "Drop off at any of our new clothing donation bins!". On the left is a green Christmas tree decorated with red and white circular ornaments. On the right is a blue donation bin with a red "NO REDEMPT" sign and the text "Please place items in the bin" and "Clothing Donations Only". At the bottom, in large red letters, is "Dec 17th-22nd, A different manager's special each day!".

Your support helps make a difference in your neighbourhood!

The Salvation Army Thrift Stores are in urgent need of your clothing donations this holiday season!

Call 1-800-757-4483 for donation information

Go to Thriftstore.ca for a list of store locations

Drop off at any of our new clothing donation bins!

Dec 17th-22nd, A different manager's special each day!



MARYMOUND PHOTO

MAKE CHRISTMAS MERRY AT MARYMOUND

Christmas can be a particularly difficult time for Marymound's hundreds of children and families. Marymound is an independent agency that provides a broad range of programs and services to young people affected by poverty, neglect or abuse. It is also a registered charity grounded in Christian values. As Christmas approaches, Marymound redoubles its efforts to reach out to children struggling to cope.

"Many of our children and families have never experienced a happy Christmas," says Ian Hughes, Marymound's chief executive officer. "As a result, this can be a wrench-

ing time for them."

In response to the challenge, Marymound hosts a special Christmas party, complete with presents from Santa, for about 100 children. Families and staff participate in the feast and chapel service that follow, giving everyone an opportunity to experience the holiday spirit.

"Ultimately, we want children to be loved and to feel that they're loved," Hughes says.

Marymound's mission and core values reflect its history. Founded in 1911 by five Sisters of the Good Shepherd — a religious

order established in 19th-century France — Marymound now serves more than 3,000 clients each year. Its programs and services range from education and specialized treatment to foster care and other living arrangements. While various government departments fund many of its services, donations are crucial to Marymound's success.

"Donations enable us to provide the extras that enrich the life of these children, such as cultural and recreational programs, or gifts from Santa," Hughes says.

To donate to, or learn more about, Marymound visit marymound.com.

SPONSOR A HOME AND A MEAL FOR CHRISTMAS

For the first time, Siloam Mission will provide not only hot, sit-down Christmas meals for hundreds of homeless Winnipeggers, but also a permanent place to live for more than 80 people. Siloam is putting the final touches on renovations to its 85-unit Madison Lodge apartment building on Evanson Street.

"It's a thrill for us to be able meet some of the growing need for supportive housing in this city," says Floyd Perras, Siloam Mission's executive director. "We've received tremendous support from the

community to make this happen."

Established in 1987 to meet the needs of the poor and homeless, Siloam Mission is a Christian humanitarian agency that provides emergency shelter and meals, along with mental health, skills development, employment and other services. Each year, it serves more than 300,000 meals; its 110-bed facility is full most nights. To fulfil its mission, Siloam Mission relies on the ongoing support of many people, including health-care professionals who volunteer their services in the on-site

clinic. Services include primary health care, dentistry, physiotherapy, counselling services, chiropractic care, foot care, optometry and health education.

"Ultimately, we encourage everyone to fully understand homelessness and help resolve it," Perras says.

One of the most popular ways people can help is by sponsoring a sit-down Christmas meal for \$3.11 per person. This year, Siloam expects to serve about 700 hot meals on Christmas Day. To learn more, visit siloam.ca.



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Marymound wishes you and yours
a happy holiday season.

Our mission is with children, youth and families who need support as they face the challenges of growing, learning and parenting. Marymound supports Manitoban children and their families to reach their fullest potential and independence.

On behalf of Marymound youth, staff and volunteers and our Board of Directors, we extend best wishes for a safe and healthy Christmas and New Year.



www.marymound.com

Inquiries or donations may
be directed to:

442 Scotia Street
Winnipeg, MB R2V 1X4
(204) 338-7971

CRN:#10767 6017 RR0001

PLEASE CLIP AND SEND WITH YOUR GIFT TODAY.

Complete Christmas Dinner-\$3.11



We need your help to serve hot meals and provide other essential services to people experiencing hunger and homelessness in Winnipeg's inner city this Christmas season.

For just \$3.11, you can provide a hot meal or the safe shelter and spiritual help that can be the start of a new life.

Please help us feed and care for people experiencing hunger and homelessness by mailing your gift today.

☐ \$18.66 helps 6 people ☐ \$59.09 helps 19 people
☐ \$37.32 helps 12 people ☐ \$80.86 helps 26 people
☐ \$_____ to help as many people as possible

Please charge my: ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX

Card No _____ Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Donate online at siloam.ca/donate, or call 204-956-4344 or toll-free at 1-866-648-HOPE (4673).

Name _____

Apt _____ Address _____

City/Prov/PC _____

Phone _____

Email _____



Please make your
cheque payable to:
Siloam Mission
300 Princess Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1M3
siloam.ca



Donate through the United Way
by referencing our charitable
number 11915 0043 RR001.

Siloam12

Costs are average and include the expense of preparing and providing meals.
A receipt for income tax purposes will be sent to you.
Siloam Mission is a Registered Canadian Charity 11915 0043 RR0001.

SERVING THE LESS FORTUNATE IN WINNIPEG'S INNER CITY SINCE 1987

NHL

League, NHLPA meet face-to-face

Two days of talks between the NHL, the players' association, and federal mediators still haven't provided any answers for how to end the lockout.

Representatives from the fighting sides made it into the same room with a federal mediator Thursday. They just didn't make noticeable progress. Players' association special counsel Steve Fehr, who met with league lead counsel Bob Battersman on Thursday, said the sides intend to talk Friday in person or by phone. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

MLB

Hamilton heading west to Rangers' rivals in California

Josh Hamilton is heading to the Los Angeles Angels, lured with a \$125-million US, five-year contract that steps up the migration of high-profile stars to Southern California.

The Angels persuaded the free-agent outfielder to leave the Texas Rangers with their third big-money off-season signing in as many years. Hamilton heads to Anaheim after first baseman Albert Pujols came west for \$240 million last December along with pitcher C.J. Wilson — Hamilton's Texas teammate — for \$77.5 million. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Josh Hamilton **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Reason to cheer for prolonged lockout

World juniors. Canadian squad should be most talented in years, assuming NHL labour dispute continues

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Mark Scheifele, Jonathan Huberdeau. Not bad for a first line. With Dougie Hamilton and Morgan Rielly as the top defence pairing. And probably Malcolm Subban in net.

Coach Steve Spott has picked his talent-loaded team — the 23 players who will represent Canada at the world junior hockey championship in Russia — after a bullet-quick training camp.

Now he can only hope he can keep the team together.

The NHL lockout — or, the possibility that the lockout could end before the tournament is over — haunts him.

How worried is he? "On a scale of one to 10," he said. "Fourteen."

There's a very real risk that one, two or more of his players could be called to their NHL camp if the lockout ends. If they're called before midnight Dec. 25 — the deadline for handing in his roster — they can be replaced. If they're called after, Team Canada would play undermanned.

And it's the team's best players — Nugent-Hopkins (by Edmonton), Huberdeau (by Florida), Hamilton (by Boston) — who are the highest risk of being called back.

Some teams have pledged to Hockey Canada to allow their players to stay through the end of the tournament: The Leafs (Rielly), the Blues (Jordan Binnington, Ty Rattie), the Blue Jackets (Boone



Nathan MacKinnon, left, from Cole Harbour, N.S., and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, from Burnaby, B.C., chat at selection camp in Calgary on Wednesday. Both MacKinnon and his Halifax Mooseheads teammate Jonathan Drouin cracked the Canadian roster as 17-year-olds. **JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Quoted

"If that was to happen, we have a plan in place to be able to deal with it."

Hockey Canada senior director of operations Scott Salmond on the possibility of losing some top Canadians in the event of a resolution to the NHL lockout

Jenner) and Penguins (Scott Harrington).

Scheifele has told the media that the Jets would let him stay, but the Jets have not told Hockey Canada that.

It may come down to public pressure for teams — especially Canadian teams — to leave their players in the tournament.

"We know exactly what we're dealing with," said Scott Salmond, Hockey Canada's senior director of operations.

"I would say it's just like an injury. If someone gets injured between the time we leave for Europe and the time the tournament starts, we can replace those guys. Unfortunately, obviously, it's going to be some of our best players. We've got great depth. We'll just have to call other guys in and some other guys will have to step up."

Plan B is to call back players from among the eight released Thursday evening:

Sweet 17

Halifax Mooseheads duo Nathan MacKinnon and Jonathan Drouin have cracked the Canadian roster as 17-year-olds.

- The inclusion of the pair is significant because the NHL lockout made all the country's top 19-year-old talent available.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Goalie Laurent Brossoit, defencemen Frankie Corrado, Ryan Sproul and Matt Dumaba and forwards Daniel Catenacci, Tom Wilson, Mark McNeill and Hunter Shinkaruk.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Passion compels Calvillo to continue career



An injury to Anthony Calvillo's non-throwing arm won't force the 40-year-old Montreal quarterback to call it a career. **RYAN REMIOWZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Anthony Calvillo says he feels great and he's playing well, so why retire even if he is 40 years old?

The Montreal Alouettes quarterback who was named a CFL all-star for a fifth time this season announced Thursday that he will return for a 20th season. He signed a contract for a year plus an option year, and will make another decision on whether to continue after the 2013 campaign.

"I have to evaluate every season if I still enjoy what I do, and I do," Calvillo said. "I strongly believe that this organization is going to continue to

Quoted

"Going on 20 years, at one point, you're supposed to retire and that day will come. But today's not it. I have too much passion and love for this organization."

Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo

have success and I want to be part of that."

The league's all-time passing leader had his left, non-throwing arm in a sling from

surgery last Friday to repair a torn labrum that he played with since the third game of the season.

Despite the injury, which forced him to change his throwing motion, Calvillo completed 333 passes for 5,082 yards and 31 touchdowns in 17 starts.

It was his seventh season of more than 5,000 passing yards.

Calvillo said the surgery went well and he will need four months of rehab work to be back to normal. The sling will come off in three weeks, followed by two months of work to restore full range of motion in the arm. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

If you can no longer see the point of something then there is no reason why you should go on wasting time on it. Turn your attention towards more interesting things today, such as your social life and travel.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

No matter how many times you have bet against the odds and won in the past, you are unlikely to fare so well today. Err on the side of caution. Both in your personal life and in your work, you must play it safe.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You seem reluctant to commit yourself to a plan or project that on most other occasions would appeal to you. Most likely your sixth sense is trying to tell you that it's too dangerous to get involved. Heed its warning.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

There is a danger that you will push yourself too hard and burn yourself out. Save as much of your physical, mental and emotional energy as you can today and over the weekend. You'll need it early next week.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

What would you do if you knew that you could not fail? Cosmic activity in the sympathetic sign of Sagittarius indicates that your dreams really will come true — if you have the courage to reach for them.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Your main task over the next 24 hours is to find a positive outlet for all the emotional energy that has been building up inside you. Activities of a physical nature are an especially good way to let off steam.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

It never hurts to let those you love know how much you care for them and you will get the chance to do that today and over the weekend. What you give out now will come back to you later many times over.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

The planets suggest the efforts you make now will pay off in a big way around the middle part of next week. The powers that be have not forgotten you, but it doesn't hurt to remind them what you can do.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You will fight with all your powers to get what it is you desire today and you won't take no for an answer. Your rivals will sense how serious you are and, for the most part, move aside rather than take you on.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Your career plans are more likely to succeed if you keep your aims to yourself, at least for the next few days. The more you let rivals know what it is you desire, the easier you make it for them to deny you.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You may have a different outlook and a different way of doing things to a colleague but ultimately you share the same goal, so find ways you can work together. Your differences can make you both stronger and more effective.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

What happens today and over the weekend will open your eyes to new possibilities and make you realize how much more is possible. Banish negative thinking in all its forms — there's no need for it at all. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword

Across

1. When Paris sizzles
4. Provoke
7. Red Muppet
11. Peeples and Vardalos
13. Actress — Dawn Chong
14. — to Avonlea
15. Trigger
17. The Plastic — Band
18. Sha — Na
19. Decent
22. Scope
26. — lieu of
27. Summer attire
28. — Elsewhere
30. Geeks
34. Ortiz of Ugly Betty
35. Garden pest
37. Important time
38. Elegant shop
40. Modern Family actor
41. Ziering of Beverly Hills, 90210
42. Providence state
43. Citrus fruit
46. Anderson of Baywatch
50. Plural suffix
51. Exist
52. Like some brides
58. Irritate
60. Cartoon shriek
61. Lake near Buffalo
62. Darrin's boss on Bewitched
63. Trash bag closer
64. Right angle shape

Down

1. Disney doe
2. Spasm
3. Snack
4. Writer Levin
5. Alley rodent
6. Hang on to
7. Night time drama starring Noah Wyle
8. Noose



BY BETTY MARTIN

9. Lion's locks

10. Smell

12. Without

16. Moving vehicle

20. Coat that gets tossed

21. — Life to Live

22. Airport postings, for short

23. Princess warrior of TV

24. Shade of blue

25. Recipe abbr.

29. What's — use?

31. Harness strap

32. Trail

33. Lucid

35. Shrub

36. Wedding words

39. Mineral

44. Matter, in law

45. Tennis great Arthur

46. Actor's quest

47. Diva's solo

48. Thaw

49. Promote, as criminal intent

53. Flower garland

54. Hawaiian instrument (abbr.)

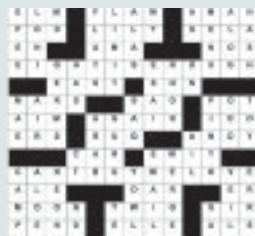
55. Tick off

56. Zip

57. Harden

59. Star of ChiPs (init.)

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers
metronews.ca/
answers.



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

3	5	8	2	9	4	6	7	1
4	2	1	7	8	6	3	5	9
6	7	9	1	3	5	2	4	8
7	8	5	4	2	1	9	6	3
9	4	2	6	7	3	8	1	5
1	6	3	9	5	8	4	2	7
2	1	7	8	4	9	5	3	6
8	3	6	5	1	2	7	9	4
5	9	4	3	6	7	1	8	2

9		8				3		
		7				8	4	
	4	6		9	5	2		
5	7							
2							6	
					1	9		
1	2	5		3	7			
7	8			4				
6			1			5		

Weather

TODAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



MAX: -17°
MIN: -21°



MAX: -15°
MIN: -16°



MAX: -7°
MIN: -7°



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*Model shown is a 2013 Forester 2.5X 5MT (DJ1 XO) with MSRP of \$28,105 including freight & PDI (\$1,595), documentation fees (\$395) and air and tire levies (\$120). License, taxes, insurance and registration extra. **0.9% finance and lease rates available on all new 2013 Forester models for a 24-month term. Financing and leasing programs available through Toyota Credit Canada Inc. on approved credit. ***\$500 Holiday Bonus offer applies only to lease and finance agreements for all new 2013 Forester models. †\$2,000 cash incentive is for cash customers only and is available on all new 2013 Forester models. Cannot be combined with Subaru Canada supported lease/finance rates or Holiday Bonus. Dealers may sell for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. ****† Offers valid until December 31, 2012. See your local Subaru dealer or www.frontiersubaru.com for complete details.



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